THE NEW
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HARVARD, MIT SUE TRUMP ADMIN OVER VISA ORDER

The two institutions have sued the Department of Homeland Security and the Immigration and Customs Enforcement

CASE FILED IN BOSTON DISTRICT COURT

The move by MIT and Harvard is in response to the Trump administration's new guidelines barring foreign students from remaining in America if their universities switched to online-only classes in the Fall. According to a report in The Harvard Crimson, the two preeminent educational institutions filed a lawsuit in District Court in Boston Wednesday morning

LAWSUIT SEEKS RESTRAINING ORDER

- The lawsuit seeks a temporary restraining order and preliminary and permanent injunctive relief to bar the two federal agencies from forcing international students to leave the US
- "We owe it to them (students) to stand up and to fight and we will," said Harvard University President Lawrence Bacow

$41 bn

INT'L STUDENTS' CONTRIBUTION TO U.S. ECONOMY IN 2018-2019 ACADEMIC YEAR

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Hospitals battle staff shortage as Covid spikes

Despite offers of risk allowance, incentives, health staff reluctant to take up Covid duties

IFFATH FATHIMA @Bengaluru

WITH the increasing number of coronavirus cases in the city, many private and government hospitals, which are hamstrung by a shortage of staff, have begun recruiting doctors, nurses, laboratory technicians and other staff. But shockingly, the prospective recruits seem averse to taking up Covid duties despite hospitals offering risk allowances and other incentives.

According to estimates by the Karnataka Medical Council, hospitals across the state are facing a 40-50 per cent shortage of doctors, nurses and technical staff. Sources in the state Covid technical committee said there is an acute shortage of health staff, specially for Covid care centres and to triage persons going in for home isolation.

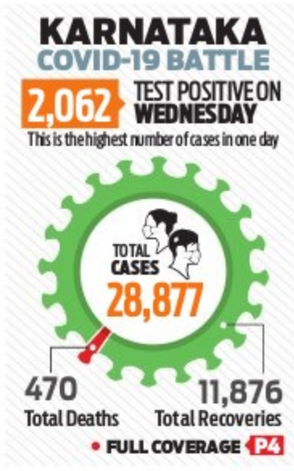
At the government-run K C General Hospital, about seven staffers including nurses, doctors and a data operator, had tested positive for Covid-19, leading to a panic, and most of the Group-D staff and many nurses are on leave. Though the hospital is recruiting staff on a six-month contract, there are hardly any takers.

"Nobody wants to work in this scenario. With even health workers testing positive, the staffers are really scared. Between July 4 and 10, we are conducting walk-in interviews and so far, we have only got two specialists, four staff nurses and five Group-D staff who have come forward. We need more doctors, nurses and Group-D staff. The existing staff go into quarantine after Covid duty and we need extra staff to replace them," said a senior doctor who did not want to be named.

Dr Jagadish Hiremath, CEO of Ace Suhas Hospital in Jigani, said, "We had 60 staffers working with us in early March on Covid duty. Now, we have just 28 of them. With such lean staff, how can we check on Covid patients? We are recruiting and are even okay with reasonably trained staff who we can further train, but they want to join for non-Covid services. We are even offering them 100 per cent risk allowance apart from salary, but they are not agreeing for Covid duties."

CONTINUED ON: P5

Staff at the Bowring and Lady Curzon Hospital screen a woman before allowing her to proceed to the OPD section, in Bengaluru on Wednesday | VINOD KUMAR T



K'taka slipping on recovery rate

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

A gradually declining Covid-19 recovery rate and an increasing positivity rate in Karnataka could be indicators of how the State Government is up against a rather tough fight on managing the dreaded disease. Karnataka, which on Wednesday recorded its highest single-day spike in cases at 2,062, has spiralled up to the seventh spot among states with the highest number of cases. Also, its recovery rate is the worst among the top states which have higher number of positive cases.

As cases soar, Karnataka dials RMPs to fight virus

In a bid to fight the rapid spike in Covid cases, the government has sought the services of medical professionals registered with the Karnataka Medical Council. P4

With a total of 28,877 Covid-19 positive cases so far, Karnataka has a recovery rate of just 41.12 percent, while the dubious topper, Maharashtra, with 2,23,724 cases, has a far better recovery rate of 54.60 per cent. The all-India recovery rate is at 61.64 per cent.

The state has been showing a high growth rate in cases, especially since June 27, ranging from 10.62 per cent on June 28, when 1,267 cases were added in a single day, to 5.91 per cent on Tuesday. On Wednesday, the growth rate in Covid-19 cases in the state was 7.68 per cent with the addition of 2,062 cases.

CONTINUED ON: P4

Govt-Congress war heats up, probe against RGF, two other NGOs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE face-off between the Congress first family and the ruling BJP deepened on Wednesday with the Union Home Ministry constituting an inter-ministerial panel to probe funding violations by NGOs controlled by the former — Rajiv Gandhi Foundation (RGF), Rajiv Gandhi Charitable Trust (RGCT) and Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust.

The probe comes in the backdrop of complaints by the BJP that money from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund was diverted to RGF.

"MHA sets up inter-ministerial committee to coordinate investigations into violation of various legal provisions of PMLA, Income Tax Act, FCRA etc by Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, Rajiv Gandhi Charitable Trust & Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust. Spl. Dir of ED will head the committee," a Home Ministry spokesperson tweeted. The CBI will also be part of the probe panel, sources said.

Set up in 1991, RGF's stated purpose is to promote education while RGCT, a not-for-profit organisation set up in 2002, seeks to address the development needs of the underprivileged. Among the trustees of RGF are former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi and P Chidambaram. Congress president Sonia Gandhi chairs both RGF and RGCT. Rahul is on the board of both the Trusts. On paper, K M Pareeth, a local leader and businessman in Kerala, is president of the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust, but Sonia reportedly oversees its work.

Predictably, the Congress reacted strongly to the probe and accused the government of practising politics of vengeance. It, however, said the Trusts have ample documentation to establish their source of funding.

"We are here as law-abiding persons to answer. Each opposition segment, individual and institution is being harassed," Congress spokesperson and senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi said.

However, BJP general secretary P Muralidhar Rao asserted there was no political motive behind the probe. "Transactions of the RGF are in public domain. This issue has various dimensions. It is related to FCRA violations, it is related to donation acceptance, it is related to IT audit," claimed Rao.

After uproar, CBSE says syllabus snip only for 1 yr

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

HOURS after a huge uproar over the choice of topics slashed for Classes 9-12 to prune the syllabus by 30% in view of the pandemic, the Central Board of Secondary Education on Wednesday sought to allay all misgivings, saying it is a "one-time measure" for a year to reduce exam stress.

In the process of rationalising about 190 subjects for Classes 9-12, the Board slashed various important chapters like secularism, democratic rights, gender, religion and caste and food security, creating a major controversy.

But the Board pointed out that the topics being mentioned "as dropped are either being covered by the rationalised syllabus or in the Alternative Academic Calendar of NCERT". "Each of the topics that have been wrongly mentioned in the media as deleted have been covered under Alternative Academic Calendar of NCERT which is already in force for all the affiliated schools of the Board," its statement read.

The omitted topics in Class 9 Political Science syllabus includes democratic rights and structure of the Indian Constitution. From the Economics

syllabus, the chapter on Food Security in India is dropped.

For Class 10, from the History syllabus, lessons on 'Everyday Life, Culture and Politics' and 'Print Culture and the Modern World' are out. In Geography, chapters on Forest and Wildlife, Water Resources and Mineral and Energy Resources have been partially cut. Only maps will be part of exams. As for Class 11 students, they need not study chapters on federalism, citizenship, nationalism, secularism and growth of local governments in India.

Many prominent people, including West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee, shared their anguish. "Shocked to know that the Central Govt has dropped topics like Citizenship, Federalism, Secularism & Partition in the name of reducing CBSE course during #COVIDCrisis. We strongly object to this & appeal @HRD-Ministry, GoI to ensure these vital lessons aren't curtailed at any cost," she tweeted.

EXPRESS READ

BJP leader, kin shot dead in J&K

Srinagar: Wasim Ahmed Bari, BJP district president, his father and brother were shot dead by terrorists in the Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday night, DGP Dilbagh Singh said. The incident took place outside Bari's shop near police station Bandipora at 9 pm, the DGP added.

HIGH COURT STAYS BAN ON ONLINE CLASSES

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court on Wednesday stayed the State Government's orders imposing a complete prohibition on online classes for children starting from LKG to Class 5 and restrictions for students of Classes 6 to 10. This comes a day after an expert committee gave its recommendations to the government on conducting online classes.

Observing that both the orders have no support of documents and that the state had passed the orders without any rational basis, a division bench of Chief Justice Abhay Shreeniwas Oka and Justice Nataraj Rangaswamy passed the interim order after hearing a batch of petitions filed by parents and CBSE/ICSE-affiliated schools.

CONTINUED ON: P5

Pullback total at two locations, one still on

MAYANK SINGH AND PUSHKAR BANAKAR @New Delhi

DISENGAGEMENT of troops along the LAC is complete at two locations while the process is still on at another one, sources said on Wednesday even as China chose to ramp up tensions through its mouthpiece *The Global Times*, warning India against misjudging the situation like it did in 1962.

"The disengagement process is complete at Patrolling Point (PP) 14 at Galwan Valley and PP 15 with the troops of both India and China receding to the agreed distance away from the standoff position held till Monday," sources said, adding the retreat from Patrolling Point 17A (Gogra) in Hot Spring Sector is about to culminate.

Talking about Finger 4 along the Northern Flank of Pangong Tso, sources termed the backward movement from the Chinese side as intangible as only a few vehicles have gone back. There has been no agreement on Depsang. "The process is to take place in phases and this is going to take time," sources said.

Meanwhile, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Wednesday accused China of taking "incredibly aggressive action" aginst India along the LAC.

The Global Times warned India of misjudging the situation like it did in 1962. In an article on Wednesday, it said, "We hope to see India properly handle its domestic nationalistic sentiments and overcome its strategic adventure."

The article went on to say that New Delhi's 'strategic aggressiveness' will ultimately undermine its long-term development and will lead to India paying a heavy price. "An adventurous strategy will be detrimental to India's national development goals," the article stated.

CONTINUED ON: P8

INDIA SLAMS PAK ON KULBHUSHAN PETITION

India on Wednesday said Pakistan's claim of former Indian Navy officer Kulbhushan Jadhav refusing to file a review petition against his sentence is the continuation of a "farce" | P8

Social Welfare Department

Services of Social Welfare Department now through SAKALA

Sri B.S. Yediyurappa
Hon'ble Chief Minister

General Public can now avail the below mentioned services through SAKALA.
Intending Beneficiaries belonging to Scheduled Caste can avail the services by submitting applications through Seva Sindhu / Social welfare Department websites.

ಸಕಾಲ Sakala

- Incentive for Inter Caste Married Couple.
- Compensation to Atrocity Victims
- Pre-Examination Coaching for U.P. S.C./K.P. S.C / Other Group A & B/ R.R.B./Banking/Group C/ S.S.C and other Competitive Examination.
- "Prabhuddha" Overseas Scholarship
- Prize Money to Meritorious Students.
- Pre-Metric Scholarship.
- Post-Metric Scholarship.
- Pre-Metric Hostel Admission
- Post-Metric Hostel Admission

Sri Govind M. Karjol,
Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister & Minister for Social Welfare and Public Works,
Distributing Incentives to Inter Caste Married Couples.

Officers to be contacted:

Chief Administrative Officer, Pre-examination Training Centre and Joint/Deputy Directors of the respective Districts Social Welfare Department and Assistant Director (Grade-1 & 2), Social Welfare Department.
website: http://sakala.kar.nic.in and http://sw.kar.nic.in

As is enshrined in our constitution, "to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture" - is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.

Dr. Ravi Kumar Surpur, IAS
Commissioner
Social Welfare Department

G. Kumar Naik, IAS
Principal Secretary to Govt.
Social Welfare Department

ALMANAC TODAY

• **Thursday** 09/07/2020 • **Year:** Sarvari • **Ayana :** Uttharayana • **Ritu:** Greeshma • **Masa:** Ashada • **Paksha:** Krishna • **Tithi:** Chaturthi 9.37 am • **Nakshatra:** Sathabhisha 3.22 am • Moon in Meena Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 01:30 pm to 03:00pm • **Gulikakala:** 09:00 am to 10:30 am • **Yamaganda:** 03:00 am to 04:30 am

WEATHER WATCH

MIN 22°C | MAX 27°C

FORECAST
Thunderstorms late. Mostly cloudy

Sunrise	5.59 am
Sunset	6.50 pm
Moonrise	10.19 pm
Moonset	9.30 am

Owners to shut shops, hotels at bus stations

Decision taken because of fewer buses plying, dip in number of customers, government agencies asking for rent

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

FROM Thursday, all commercial establishments including restaurants which were operating from bus stands across the State, will shut down.

There are around 12,000 such commercial establishments operating in all bus stands and bus stops across the State on premises belonging to BMTC and KSRTC. They have decided to close down citing financial losses.

Raghavendra K, treasurer of Karnataka Hotels and Restaurants Association, told The New Indian Express that a meeting was held with the state government and members of the transport sector, but it did not yield any fruitful result. "So we have decided to close down our units as we are suffering losses. No buses are plying, customers' numbers have also dipped drastically and it has become tough to make ends meet," he said.

During the two-month lockdown period, the government agencies had exempted rent collection. But now they are demanding rent. "When we said it was not possible and we want to close down, the government agencies asked us to at least pay 20% rent, but we can't as we do not have even 10% business. With shortage of staff and customers, many hotels and restaurants are suffering losses. So we have told government agencies to take back the possession of the properties and refund the deposit so that we can move on," said Chandrashekhar Hebbar, Association president.

Property owners submitted a memorandum to BMTC and KSRTC offices on Tuesday stating that they will not open from Thursday till the government takes a decision and bails them out. They told the government that they could start afresh somewhere else if they got back the deposit amount.

KSRTC Managing Director S R Umashankar said that the KSRTC and BMTC received a representation from them to close down. He said, "We are open to negotiations on the rent, but we also have to work out the finances for us. We understand the problems they are facing and are open to discussions. All the details and the problems will be discussed at the board meeting before any decisions are made. However, to close down operations is up to the associations."

There are around 12,000 shops and hotels at all BMTC and KSRTC bus stations across the state

Federation seeks hike in workers' wages

PREEJA PRASAD @Bengaluru

MEMBERS of the KSRTC Staff and Workers' Federation have sought a meeting with the top management of state transport undertakings, including the managing directors of BMTC and KSRTC, to discuss the hardships faced by transport corporation employees.

Federation chief secretary D A Vijay Bhaskar said, "We are demanding increased wages for workers since they are doing Covid-related work too since June 7."

While the corporations had exempted those aged above 50 from working, the Federation alleged that the employees have to avail of their existing leaves without any guarantee of salaries being paid. "Transport corporations are running under loss now and we are aware that they are struggling to pay our wages. Also, funds have not been transferred to our PF accounts," Bhaskar said.

In a letter to the KSRTC MD, the Federation stated that transport corporation staff too should be designated as Covid warriors as they are working in the frontline. They demanded that some of the bus services should be discontinued as there is lesser number of passengers and to reduce further losses.

EXPRESS READ

CMRIT to organise free mock test for KCET

CMR Institute of Technology will organise a free online mock test for KCET 2020 aspirants on July 11. The topper will get a concession in the college fee and an e-certificate. Teachers will supervise and also set questions to provide a real experience of KCET, a note from the institute said. Besides giving students a fair idea about the level of preparation needed and an indication of the performance, the Principal of CMR National PU College Angel Paul said the test will also help students tackle psychological pressure in view of the coronavirus on the whole gamut of study needs and skill output. **ENS**

The BBMP head office has been closed to visitors due to the rising number of Covid cases | SHRIRAM B N

BBMP head office shuts its gates for visitors till July 24

Bengaluru: The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike Commissioner, late on Tuesday night announced that entry to the head office will be prohibited for people from July 9 to July 24. The corporation has taken this decision keeping in mind the rising Covid cases in the city. Citizens with grievances, can use the Sakala portal, or put complaints at the drop box placed at the gate of the BBMP head office. Citizens can also use email (contactusbbmp@gmail.com), WhatsApp (9480685700), Twitter (@bbmpcomm), Facebook, or log onto www.bbmp.sahaya.in. The commissioner is said to have taken this decision for the safety of citizens and staffers who visit containment zones and government offices for meetings, BBMP officials said. Meanwhile, the BBMP building in Shivajinagar will be developed as Broadway Hospital for Covid-19, with Infosys donating Rs 30 crore for infrastructure cost. It will have 180 beds and 30 ventilators. **ENS**

FARMERS TO PAY LESS FOR BDA ALTERNATIVE SITES

S LALITHA@Bengaluru

IN a move that could benefit nearly 400 farmers who handed over their land for two BDA layouts over 15 years ago, the Bangalore Development Authority has decided to change the norms for the Incentive Scheme sites awarded to them. It has slashed the payment to be made by them from the present 70% to 25% of the market guidance value.

The farmers parted with their land for Sir M Visvesvaraya Layout and Banashankari 6th Stage with a total of 10,000 sites in 2004. In exchange for the land, the farmers were offered developed sites of the same dimension in the vicinity of their surrendered land as compensation. "However, due to the escalation in land value in the city, the farmers were asked to pay 70 percent of the prevalent guidance value for the incentive sites," said a senior BDA official. Farmers had refused the offer, and were demanding a lower amount.

"The decision to slash the payment by farmers was taken at a high-level meeting on Tuesday evening," said a BDA source. "This will be a big relief to the farmers who have pleaded with the Authority over the years and also held protests against the high cost. A longstanding problem has been finally sorted out," he said.

BDA Commissioner H R Mahadev confirmed the development to TNIE. "We finalised it on Tuesday and sent the proposal to the government for approval."

Farmer representatives could not be reached for comment. A similar tussle related to compensation for acquired land is on between BDA and farmers who have parted with land for Arkavathy and Nadaprabhu Kempe Gowda Layouts.

CORNER SITE SALE STAGGERED OVER THREE DAYS

Bengaluru: Unable to process the sale of over 200 corner sites at one go due to technical problems, the Bangalore Development Authority has now divided them into three sets. It has extended the final day of e-auctioning for each set on a specific day in three consecutive days. The entire auctioning process would end by 6 pm on July 10. While the BDA announced on Tuesday that the auction process was extended up to 6 pm on Wednesday due to technical glitches, at a meeting held early on Wednesday with the state's e-procurement cell it was decided that the server would not be able to handle the load if 200 sites are auctioned at one go, said a BDA official. Of the 205 sites to be auctioned, 62 were auctioned on Wednesday, 67 would be auctioned on Thursday, while 76 would go under the hammer on Friday, a press release said. "There were no problems on Wednesday when the first batch was auctioned," another official said. Those who have been allotted the sites need to pay 25% of the total cost within 72 hours of the allotment, the release added. This refers to three (bank) working days, the official added. **ENS**

BDA terminates contract with outsourced agency

The BDA has terminated its contract with an agency that looked after its system operations over charges of misappropriation of funds. Superintendent of Police, BDA Task Force, Shivakumar Gunare, said "Two of their staff took the salary of a data entry operator who had resigned two months ago. When we began conducting checks, the amount was hastily returned to the BDA account." The amount was less than ₹30,000 but the attempt to misappropriate money was a serious offence. No FIR was filed, he said. **ENS**

FLYING HIGH

HAL Academy launches PG diploma courses

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE HAL Management Academy on Wednesday launched two post-graduate diploma courses in management with specialisation in aviation management and production management.

Graduates with degrees in engineering, science or computer science can apply for the two-year programmes for which the fee is Rs 6.5 lakh, including mess and hostel charges. The last date for applying is July 31.

The academy will take a call on whether admissions will be done through written tests followed by an interview in person or online, based on the Covid situation.

Alok Verma, Director (HR), said that the programmes are planned for the second half of September 2020. The academy is contemplating online classes for the first semester.

"Based on the evolving situation, the academy will offer subjects for the first semester through online real-time interactive classrooms if required," Verma said in an official release.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

09th July : There's an unmistakable dream-like quality about today. That's why current events set the pattern for a year in which your imagination and dream-life will often take the lead, leaving practical matters to either look after themselves, or be handled by other people. It's excellent for all true-born, pure-blooded romantics!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
The main pre-occupation over the current time is personal creativity. You need to express your deeply unique talents, and your main strategy should probably now be to go back and look at the way things were done in the past. You'll uncover clues as to what you should do in the present.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
It may be irritating to be tied to what friends have in mind, but unless you want to be a hermit you will have to accept that others' feelings must come first. In love, you should abandon unrealistic expectations of what romance should or shouldn't be about.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Domestic relationships should be worked at. There's no point in blaming other people because such-and-such a thing may have gone wrong, or because you may not have got your way. The past is the past, and the future must be tackled with hope and courage.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
You will be unwilling to perform any task which doesn't suit your personal wishes and interests. You may therefore be a reluctant employee unless those in authority entrust you with taxing and interesting responsibilities. It's partly up to you, but also up to them!

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Home and family affairs really must take first place in your list of emotional priorities. Take some time out to try and understand what has been troubling relations, and offer them whatever moral support is required. You might do best to keep your doubts to yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
If you're wondering where all the good luck has gone, hold on for just a little while longer. It might be that partners are due to have first bite of the cherry. And while you're making plans for the future, understand that the best to come out of the present time will be enhanced self-knowledge.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
You often feel undervalued and taken for granted, sometimes with good reason. Yet, now could be the perfect time to turn the tables on partners and make them see that you are to be taken seriously, and that your feelings are worth every bit as much as theirs.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
You're still in the driving seat, so you should gain personally from much of what is going on. However, when life is moving your way you should make a determined effort to look after other people's interests as well as your own. They'll return the favour when the position is reversed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
A mystery of sorts should soon be cleared up, but the answer may lie within rather than without. In other words, because of your own preconceptions, you have misinterpreted someone else's intentions. Your vivid imagination may be to blame, rather than awkward circumstances.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
A great deal depends on how you get on with other people, even at work. Emotional undercurrents and beliefs count for very much more than the facts. Even in business, partners seem to be influenced by the way things once were, rather than the way they are now.

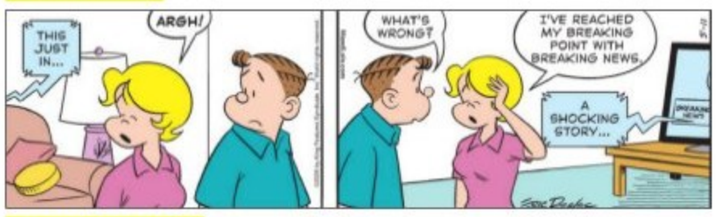
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
It's no use imagining that you're not ambitious. If you do give way to false humility then you'll doubtless miss out on a major opportunity. Push yourself forward and you may open the way to emotional fulfilment, together with applause and acclaim from your peers.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Sometimes it's an advantage being a dreamer, but not always. Your heart's desire lies a long way off - or does it? One thing you have to sort out is your continual tendency to imagine that the grass is always greener somewhere else. Try to live in the here and now for once!

THE PHANTOM

HOURS PASS
WE'RE LOSING THE LIGHT...
AND IF THE LION'S SCENT IS ON THE AIR, HE'S NEARBY...
SNIFF SNIFF
I NEVER IMAGINED HE COULD WALK THIS FAR WHILE LOSING SO MUCH BLOOD...
BETTER TO HAVE CAMPED ON THE SAVANNA...
TO HAVE STARTED TRACKING HIM AT FIRST LIGHT TOMORROW.
Falk 5/7

HI AND LOIS



BEETLE BAILEY

BLONDIE

WOOF! WOOF!
WHY WAS DAISY BARKING, DEAR?
IT WAS MY FAULT
APPARENTLY, WHEN I GAVE HER DINNER, I FORGOT TO TELL HER WHAT A GOOD GIRL SHE IS

LOCKHORNS

DENNIS THE MENACE

Test your number crunching skill with our unique puzzle

SUDOKU

1			6					
	4			1	5			
	9	6	4				3	
4			2	3	6	5	1	
3		2		5		8		4
	6	9	8	4	1			2
	3				8	6	9	
			1	9			2	
					2			8

EASY

- Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.
- Each sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzles

9	1	4	2	6	7	3	8	5
2	6	5	8	3	9	1	7	4
8	3	7	5	1	4	6	2	9
7	9	1	6	4	2	5	3	8
3	5	8	7	9	1	4	6	2
6	4	2	3	5	8	9	1	7
1	2	6	9	7	5	8	4	3
5	7	3	4	8	6	2	9	1
4	8	9	1	2	3	7	5	6

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MLUPP

VLANA

VCATIE

WUYBAS

They're low-carb. I thought we could try them.
I'm not cooking fake noodles!
THE CHEF REFUSED TO COOK WITH "FAKE NOODLES" AND THOUGHT THE RESULT WOULD BE ---

Get the free JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: ○○ "○○○○○○○"

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GIANT ELITE WEAKLY INTENT
Answer: Karl Benz helped pioneer internal-combustion vehicles thanks to his — "ENGINE-NEW-ITY"

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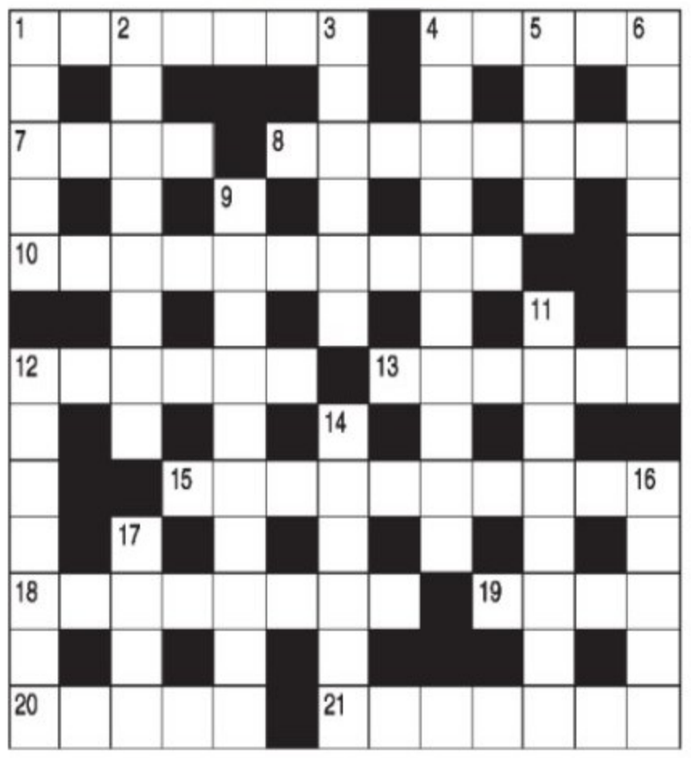
CROSS WORD



ACROSS

1 He built a wall and kept rain out (7)
4 The enemy the Salvation Army has to beat (5)
7 Not silent tears (4)
8 Rocks king in mixed doubles (8)
10 Broken lamp recast in waste material (5,5)
12 Decoration worn on one's chest (6)
13 Don't get angry, just leave without a blow (6)
15 A regal date made much of (1,5,4)
18 A patient is better after it (8)
19 Carriage sounds cheap (4)
20 One employed to unpick seams? (5)
21 Sumptuously entertains a chap with drinks (7)

DOWN

1 Bounders from Bucharest (5)
2 Wine indeed being sent out of the country (8)
3 So done may be caught (6)
4 The only representatives of the fish trade? (4,6)
5 Journey in South Africa (4)
6 Rum's not what the cure's made of (7)
9 Bound to mark the season's end (6,4)
11 Important fabric (8)
12 A bad-tempered pet (7)
14 Porter wearing fewer clothes we hear (6)
16 Joins a course for drivers (5)
17 Look what verse should do (4)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Freewheeler, 9 In a stew, 10 Ample, 11 Tied, 12 Try again, 14 Naples, 16 Feints, 18 Turn sour, 19 Otto, 22 Osier, 23 Sticker, 24 Close season.

Down: 2 Reade, 3 Efts, 4 Hewers, 5 Emanated, 6 Explain, 7 Distinction, 8 Tennis court, 13 Measures, 15 Partial, 17 Nurses, 20 Tokyo, 21 Siva.

Contractor assaults labourers

A contractor and his associates allegedly attacked two workers in Sanjay Nagar on Monday for asking for wages. A video of the assault has gone viral. Venkakesh, a resident of Bhuvaneshwari slum, lodged a complaint against contractor Shashi Kumar and his associates on Tuesday

Siddu seeks papers on Covid spend

ENS @Mysuru/Bengaluru

OPPOSITION leader in the Assembly Siddaramaiah said he will look into the books related to Covid-19 expenditure incurred by the state government.

A government that believes in transparency should send the papers on Covid expenses through officials, he said, and added, "I will personally look into the expenses."

The former CM said senior BJP leader and former minister Murugesh Nirani seems to have all evidence about the alleged irregularities and the government must collect details from him. "Your ex minister Murugesh Nirani seems to have all the evidence.... Collect it from him. P.S.: MoM of Public Accounts Committee," he tweeted, tagging minutes of the public accounts committee meeting. In the note, which Siddaramaiah claimed to be the minutes of the meeting, Nirani stated that while he was coming from Vijayapura, an official had mentioned to him that he had a pen drive with all details of purchases but he could not download the details. Nirani was not available for comment.

Angry ASHA workers approach DK Shivakumar, seek support

Protest to start tomorrow; Congress president to write to CM on workers' demands

DKS prays with Ameer-e-Shariat for Covid to end

As part of his initiative to reach out to all religious leaders, Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee president DK Shivakumar met Karnataka Ameer-e-Shariat, Maulana Sagheer Ahmed Rashadi, on Wednesday. Accompanied by KPCC working president Saleem Ahmed, Shivakumar met the chief cleric at Arabic College in Nagawara and both prayed for the Covid crisis to end. After the meeting, Shivakumar told the media that he is meeting leaders of all religions after taking charge as KPCC president to indicate that the Congress respects all religions. "There was an attempt to make Covid communal and blame one community for its spread. We will not allow that," he said.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

ACCREDITED Social Health Activists (ASHA) workers, who have placed their demands including better remuneration before the state government, approached Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee president D K Shivakumar on Wednesday seeking his support for their agitation starting from Friday.

A delegation of ASHA workers, who are frontline Covid warriors instrumental in door-to-door fever surveys across the state, met Shivakumar at his Sadashivanagar residence to seek the opposition party's support to their protest and also to pressurise the government.

"Their demands are legitimate and the government should promise them better pay, incentives and a safer work environment. I will write to Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa that payment of fair wages to ASHA workers should not be looked at as an additional financial burden. The Congress is firmly behind ASHA workers," said Shivakumar after meeting the delegation.

ASHA workers meet KPCC president D K Shivakumar to voice their concerns and demands in Bengaluru on Wednesday

Their demands are legitimate and the government should promise them better pay, incentives and a safer work environment

D K Shivakumar, KPCC president

The state government has announced Rs 3,000 as incentive for each ASHA worker for their Covid-related work, but thousands of them allege that they cannot access their salaries and incentives because of glitches in the system. Some claimed that the government has delayed releasing the incentive.

ASHA workers have demanded a minimum pay of Rs 12,000 per month and safety equipment for daily use.

BLOWING HIS LID

Ramesh lets off steam over pressure cookers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Belagavi

THE pressure cookers which Belagavi Rural MLA Laxmi Hebbalkar distributed to the people in her constituency during the last assembly elections continue to haunt her. Water Resources Minister Ramesh Jarkiholi on Tuesday claimed that the cookers which Hebbalkar distributed to the voters were funded by him.

Hitting back at Jarkiholi later in the day, Hebbalkar said she would file a contempt petition as the case is still in court.

Ramesh Jarkiholi

Jarkiholi gave a call to all BJP workers in Belagavi Rural constituency, currently represented by Hebbalkar, to ensure the the BJP candidate's victory in the next assembly election there. Jarkiholi spoke while inaugurating the new office of the BJP rural block in Belagavi Rural constituency.

The large-scale distribution of pessure cookers by Hebbalkar had created a controversy which even Prime Minister Narendra Modi had raked up in his election speech in Belagavi, saying how the voters were being wooed by the Congress leader.

Jarkiholi, a close associate of Hebbalkar during the last election, parted ways with her post-polls and vowed to defeat her in the next election.

Expressing confidence that his group of leaders would win the crucial election to Belagavi District Central Cooperative (DCC) Bank to be held shortly, he said, already money was being offered to the members by the rival groups.

Hebbalkar said she will lodge a complaint with the Election Commission against Jarkiholi for making defamatory statements against her publicly.

In a video clip which she released to clarify her stand, she said she had given the cookers to the people to mark the inauguration of Harsha Sugar Factory by her. "We have legally bought all the cookers paying even the GST and have the purchase records. Jarkiholi must produce documents to ascertain whether he paid money for the cookers as he claimed," Hebbalkar said.

Hitting back at Hebbalkar, Jarkiholi on Wednesday said, "I am ready to swear upon my family deity that I funded the pressure cookers. Let her also swear on her family deity that she did not take money from me to buy the cookers. Let the truth come out."

Jarkiholi to discuss water sharing issue in Maha

Water Resources Minister Ramesh Jarkiholi said he will attend a crucial meeting in Mumbai regarding sharing the waters of the River Krishna between Maharashtra and Karnataka. Before boarding a flight to Mumbai on Wednesday, Jarkiholi said he will also hold discussions with his Maharashtra counterpart, Jayant Patil, on conducting a meeting between the Chief Ministers of both the states to find a lasting solution to the water sharing issue.

HC notice to ministry over draft eco-study

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

OBSERVING that the Centre should give wide publicity to the draft Environment Impact Assessment 2020 for the public to respond, the Karnataka High Court on Wednesday issued a notice to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and ordered it to file objections by July 15.

During the hearing on a PIL petition filed by the United Conservation Movement Charitable and Welfare Trust, a division bench of Chief Justice Abhay Shreeniwas Oka and Justice M Nagaprasanna said that prima facie, there is merit in the petitioner's contention that the public did not have enough time to submit suggestions due to the pandemic.

The PIL said that the draft had been published on the ministry's website on March 23 and had not been given due publicity, particularly in regional languages. Though the public had been given time till June 30 to respond, postal services in many states had been disrupted due to the lockdown. The petitioners said they had requested the ministry to extend the deadline until December 31, but had received no response.

Kannada actor found dead

ENS @Mandya

KANNADA actor **Susheel Gowda** allegedly hanged himself in Mandya on Wednesday. The 30-year-old actor was famous for his roles in tele-serials and had a major role in the upcoming Sandalwood film *Salaga*. He was also a gym trainer in Bengaluru. He had been staying in his house in VV Nagara, Mandya, for the past three months.

A few days ago, he reportedly went to his friend's house in Induvalu village in Mandya. His relatives tried calling him many times but their calls went unanswered. When they went to check, they found his body. Police said he might have died a day or two ago.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued by I, Sri Madhukar G. Angur S/o Late Guddappa, aged about 58 years, residing at No.1128, 21st 'A' Cross,14th Main, HSR 3rd Sector, Bengaluru-560 102, notifying to the general public that, one person named Sri Prakash s/o late Puttanaiah, aged about 50 years, has been terminated from the nomination on the Board of Governors of Alliance University for certain reasons effective immediately, and he does not represent the Alliance University in any capacity whatsoever. Hence, through this Public Notice, I am informing the general public about the termination of Sri Prakash, & issue caution to the general public about such termination.

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public are hereby notified that the page No. 9 and 10 of the original sale deed document bearing No.4194/2001-2002, pages 129-144, volume No.4194 of Book-I, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Krishnarajapuram, Bangalore, dated 11:07:2001 in respect of property site No.28 and 29, House List Khatha No.328/4, Situated at Kalkere Village, Hormavu Group Panchyath, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Measuring East to West 60 feet and North to South 40 feet totally measuring 2400 square feet, is lost by me while making photocopy on 08-07-2020, near Ulsoor Metro Station. Anyone who ever finds it, is hereby requested to return the same to me.

G. VEERENDRA BABU
S/o. Sri. A.V. Govindarajulu, R/at. No. 21/1, 1st Cross, Guptha Layout, Ulsoor, Bangalore-560 008. Mobile: 09448367955

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby notified that my client **Sri. N.MUNIRAJU,** Son of R.Nagaraj No.31, Ist Main Road, Medahalli Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk. Is intent to purchase the property bearing Sy.No.57/1 New No.57/14 measuring 08-08 guntas, Survey No.57/15 measuring 0-08-04 situated at Gundrehalli Nandagudi Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural from its owners **H.M.Manjunath, & H.M. Prabhakar sons of late Muniswamappa** of Hedakanahalli village, and **Sri. Venkatesh, son of Byrappa** of Kolathur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. If any person having any right, title, interest or claim on the schedule property kindly to send the objections along with documents **within 30 days** from the date of this notice. In any such event no objections are received it presumes that there is no objections by any person/s.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

1) The Property bearing old Sy. No.57/1 Old No.57/14 measuring 0-8-08 guntas of land **situated at Gundrehalli village, Nandagudi Hobli, Hoskote Taluk,** and bounded on :
East by: Sy. No. 57/15 belongs to Venkateshappa
West by : Sy. No. 55 (Kere)
North by : Sy. No. 57/1 property of Thimmaiah
South by : Sy. No. 57/3 property of N.Muniraju

2) The property bearing **old Sy. No. 57/1 New Sy.No.57/15** measuring 0.08-04 guntas **situated at Gundrehalli village, Nandagudi Hobli, Hoskote Taluk** and bounded on:
East by : Sy. No. 62
West by : Sy. No. 57/14 belongs to H.M. Manjuntha, H.M.Prabhakar
North by : Sy. No. 571/ belongs to Thimmaiah
South by : Sy. No.57/3 belongs to Muniraju

(H.S. Ramamurthy & Associates)
Advocates, No. 27/31, Opp.10th Cross, Cubbonpet Main Road, Cubbonpet, Bangalore-560002. **(M) 9845143642**
N.MUNIRAJU (M) 9844063817

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby notified that my clients Ramanjaneya, Son of late Chinnappa, No.69, Kumbena Agrahara, Kadugodi Post, Bangalore-67 and Sri. M. Krishna Murthy Son of Late Munikempaiah, No.69, Dhruva Sowrabha Nilaya, 1st Main, 1st Cross, Medahalli Extn. Medahalli, Bangalore have purchased schedule property from Shantha Kumar, Smt. Sumithra, Soumya, Kumari Shalini, Smt. Premavathi. Smt. Padmavathi, Smt. Chaya, Sri. Sanjay, Sri. Ramesh. Smt. Arundathi, Kumari. Nisha, Smt. Saraia, Smt. Sneha and Kumari. Akarsha, No.15, Sushantha Nilaya, 3rd Cross, Nrupathunga Road, Behind Petrol Bunk, Battarahalli, K.R.Puram, Bangalore under a registered sale deed dated 11.10.2019. If any having any right, title, interest or claim on the schedule property kindly to send the objections along with documents within 8 days from the date of this notice. In any such event no objections are received it presumes that there is no objections by any person/s.

SCHEDULE

All the piece and parcel of undeveloped converted land bearing **Sy. No. 44/5, Old Sy. No. 44/2 measuring 1 (ONE ACRE) 0-4 guntas (FOUR)** situated at **Kodigehalli village,** Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and bounded on East by Land in Sy. No. 45/3 belongs to Neetish Purushowthama, West by: Land in Sy. No. 44/1 belongs to K.Amaresh, now it belongs to Silicon Citizen House Building Co-operative Society Ltd. North by: Hancharahalli Border, South by: Land in Sy. No. 44/2 belongs to Veralakshamma.

H.S. RAMAMURTHY & ASSOCIATES,
Advocates
No. 27/31, Opp. 10th Cross, Cubbonpet Main Road, Cubbonpet, Bangalore-02.
(M) 98451 43642
M. KRISHNA MURTHY (M) 99001 53599

PUBLIC NOTICE

Under the instructions from The bank **THE JANATHA CO.OPERATIVE BANK LTD.,** H.O. 17th Cross, 8th Main, Malleshwaram, Bangalore-560 055 wherein the said Sri. Shadakshari.G S/o. Sri. H. Gangappa has sought with the bank for financial assistance by way of mortgage of immovable property described in the schedule hereunder and the same is acquired from its owner by name Sri. R. Narayanan through registered Sale Deed dated 21.08.1981 in favour of Sri. Shadakshari.G S/o. Sri. H.Gangappa vide registered as Document No. 1916/1981-82, Book I, Volume 2883, Pages 6 to 11 registered at the office of the Sub-registrar Gandhinagar, Bangalore. It is hereby notified to the general public that the said Shadakshari.G has lost the original documents in respect of the schedule property and have also registered a police complainant before the Commissioner of police, Bengaluru-01 if anybody has any claim, charge, lien, right, title and interest over the below mentioned schedule property, they may file their objections to the bank if any with documentary proof to prove their rights to the under signed with in 07 days from this day and any objections received thereafter shall not be taken in to consideration and my client will proceed further, as if there are no other claims or objections.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the immovable residential property **bearing Municipal No.126, PID No.7-2-126,** situated at 3rd Main Road, 10th Cross, Margosa Road, Malleshwaram, Bangalore City, presently comes under the limits of BBMP, Bangalore in Ward No.7 (Old Corporation Division No.6). Measuring East to West:30 feet AND North to South : 30 feet with a common wall, totally 900 square feet, Together with 10 square house building thereon.

BOUNDED ON: East by : Conservancy Lane, West by : Out house of Property No.125, North by : Out house of another Property No.125, South by : 10th Cross Road.

B. HONNALINGE GOWDA, Advocate No.30, Kanaka Mandira, 5th Cross, Gandhinagar, Bangalore-560009.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Sri. T.L.Manjunatha,** Aged about 44 years, S/o. T.M.Lakshmaiah R/at Tavarekere Village, Nandagudi Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Banga-lore Rural Dist., is intending to purchase the schedule property from its owners **1)Sri.T.M. Nagaraju** S/o Late Muniyappa, Aged about 48 yrs, **2)Sri.Ravikumar.N** S/o Late Nanjappa, aged about 40 yrs, **3)Sri.Venkatesha** S/o Late Seenappa, Aged about 46 & **4) Sri. T.R.Arun Kumar** S/o late T.M.Rajagopal, aged about 30 yrs, **All are R/at Tavarekere Village, Nandagudi Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District** for a valid consideration. If any persons having any claims, right, title, interest, whatscever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing, **within 15 days** from the date of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title or interest by anybody and my clients will proceed with the completion of sale transaction and will get register the absolute sale deed of the schedule property in-their favour.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable **Land bearing Sy. No. 47 totally measuring 6 Acres 19 Guntas, situated at Tavarekere Village, Nandagudi Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District.** and bounded on: **East** :Land in Sy. No.48, **West :** Land in Sy. No.45, **North:** Land in Sy. No.40 & 46, **South:** National Highway.

BASAVARAJ G-Advocate, Venkamma Complex, Near Taluk Office, Hoskote Town-562114.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client Sri SHANKAREGOWDA S/o Sri Late Hanumanthaiah, aged about 43 years, residing at No. 286, 2nd Main, 9th Cross, Muneshwara Layout, Laggere, Bangalore-560058, intends to purchase schedule property from Smt. Lakshmamma W/o Late Gundappa, Balaram S/o Late Gundappa, Jayalakshmi W/o Balaram, Keshavamurthy S/o Balaram, Shashikala D/o Balaram, Mukunda S/o Late Gundappa, Jayamma W/o Mukunda, Devaraj.M S/o Mukunda, Dhasharatha.G S/o late Gundappa, Dhanalakshmi.G W/o Dhasharatha, Rukmani D/o late Gundappa, Thyagaraju S/o Late Gundappa, Jayamma W/o Thyagaraju, Sharath S/o Thyagaraju, Devadas S/o Late Gundappa, Rohini W/o Devadas all are residing at Herohalli, Village, Viswaneetham Post, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, any person/persons having any objections or claiming any right, title or interest in the said property are required to lodge the same with undersigned along with documentary evidence within 15 days from this date, failing which my client shall proceed with the transaction free from all encumbrances.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing Sy.No.29/1, situated at Bholamaranahalli village, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District measuring 3 Acres 25 Guntas and 3 guntas of Karab land & bounded as follows- East by: Thoppaiah's land, West by: Land belonging to Venkatesh, North by: Gangaiah's Land, South by: Govindhappa's land.

G.R. SRINIVASA, Advocate
No.728, 41st Cross, E.S.I Hospital Main Road, 3rd Block Rajajinagara, Bangalore-560010.
Mobile No: 95352 89666 Date: 8-7-2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the General Public that my client **Mrs. NISHA DEVI W/o Mr. Pawan Kumar Singh,** is intending to purchase the **"Schedule Property"** mentioned hereunder from **Mr.SANJEEV** S/o.Mr.Late Povappa Saliyan, r/at No.1512 Sri Devi Krupa, 18 'E' Cross, 3 Main, Vigneshwara Layout, Hoyasalanagar, Bangalore-560016. Any Person/s, Banks, Financial Institution., etc. objecting for the proposed sale or having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the "Schedule property" are hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof **within 7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the advocate mentioned herein failing which our clients shall proceed and complete the Sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the **residential property bearing No.142,** House List Katha No. 218/1, BBMP Katha No.1422, situated at **18th E Cross, 3rd Main, Vigneshwara Layout, Hoyasala -nagar, Horamavu Village, BBMP Ward No.25, Bangalore** in total measuring **1200 Square Feet,** presently coming under the limits of **Bruhat Benga -luru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP),** along with a residential building standing thereon, together with all rights, appurtenances in whatsoever manner whether hereunder or underneath or above the surface and bounded on the : **East by:** Road, **West by :** Site No.143, **North by:** Site No.141, **South by:** Site No. 79

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN- M.A., LL.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants, No.235,(Old No.13), 8th Main, 4th Block, Near SLV Uniworth Classic Apts, Maruthi Badavane, Hennur Cross, Kalyan Nagar Post, Bangalore-560 043. Contact-9845846428.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the General Public that my client **Mrs. NISHA DEVI W/o Mr. Pawan Kumar Singh,** is intending to purchase the **"Schedule Property"** mentioned hereunder from **Mr.SANJEEV** S/o.Mr.Late Povappa Saliyan, r/at No.1512 Sri Devi Krupa, 18 'E' Cross, 3 Main, Vigneshwara Layout, Hoyasalanagar, Bangalore-560016. Any Person/s, Banks, Financial Institution., etc. objecting for the proposed sale or having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the "Schedule property" are hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof **within 7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the advocate mentioned herein failing which our clients shall proceed and complete the Sale transaction with the above stated person.

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IN THE COURT OF DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I AT BANGALORE

O.A. NO. 1214/2019

BETWEEN:
YES BANK LTD. ... **APPLICANT**
AND
YATHISHA K H & ANOHTER ... **DEFENDANT**

NOTICE ISSUED TO DEFENDANTS UNDER RULE 23 (viii) OF DEBTS REOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES OF 1993 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICAITON

To,
1. Yathisha K J,
No. 1869/D, Pipeline Road, Balamuri Ganapathi Temple, Kumaraswamy Layout, Bangalore-560 078
Also at- Yathisha K J, P L Enterprises, Site No. 1 & 2, Sy. No.55 & 56, Old No.672, Nanjappa Layout, Yelechahalli, Kanakapura Main Road, Bangalore-560 062
2. Veenashree M G, No.1869/D, Pipeline Road, Nalamuri Ganapathi Temple, Kumaraswamy Layout, Bangalore-560 078

WHEREAS: the applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institution Act, 1993 against the above defendants for the recovery of Sum of **Rs. 62,50,000/- (Rupees Sixty Two Lakhs Fifty Thousand only)** amount together with current and future interest, cost and other reliefs.

The above mentioned defendants are required to appear therefore hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly instructed in support of their defence to show cause on **19.08.2020 at 10:30 a.m.** as why the relief's prayed for should not be granted. Take notice that in case default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given ,under my hand the seal of the Tribunal on this **02.07.2020**

BY ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL
REGISTRAR
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BANGALORE

SVC CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.

RECOVERY DEPARTMENT
SVC TOWER, JAWAHARLAL NEHRU ROAD, VAKOLA, SANTACRUZ (EAST), MUMBAI-400 055. Tel No.71999980/71999928/71999970
REGIONAL OFFICE AT: NO.1, 2nd FLOOR, CENTRAL BANK ROAD, CHAMRAJPET, BANGALORE - 560 018, PH: 080 71231027 TO 32

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of SVC Co-Operative Bank Ltd., will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 27.07.2020 for recovery of **Rs.47,66,877.61** TL/BL/297 & **Rs.36,05,109.80** Cash Credit loan No. CC-13 & **Rs.17,55,883.11** TL/BL/298 as on **31.01.2019** with future interest at contractual rate thereon w.e.f. 01.02.2019 Plus Legal expenses and cost due to SVC Co-Operative Bank Ltd., the Secured Creditor from **(1) Mr. Balaram. C,** No.10/7, 1st Main Road, 1st 'C' Cross, Vivekananda Nagar, Katriguppe, B.S.K. III stage, Bangalore-560085. **(2) Mr. Damodara,** No.8, 19th Main, 19th Cross, M.T.S Layout, Kengeri Upanagar, Bangalore-560 060.

The reserve price will be **Rs.16,25,000/-** (Rupees Sixteen Lakhs Twenty five Thousand only) and the Earnest money deposit will be **Rs.1,62,500/-** (Rupees One Lakhs Sixty Two Thousand Five Hundred only).

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

Residential Apartment bearing no. GF-5 on the Ground Floor of the Apartment Building Known as "Balaji Residency" measuring 1000 Sq Feet of Super built up area consisting of Two Bed Room having RCC roof, mosaic Flooring, Jungle Wood Doors and aluminum frame windows with one covered car parking space in the basement constructed on the Residentially converted vacant sites bearing Nos:22, 23, 24, site no.22 measuring East to west (44+40)/2 Feet and North to South (64+55)/2 feet, site No.23 measuring East to west 45 feet and North to South (73+64)/2 feet, Site no.24 measuring East to West (45+46)/2 feet and North to South (73+83)/2 feet situated adjacent to each other in all combindly measuring 9130 Square Feet having Single Joint khatha No.365 of Talaghattapura Gram Panchayath formed out of Survey No.10/3 of hosahalli village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South taluka, Bangalore now coming within the jurisdiction of BBMP Bangalore having Khatha No.961/365/22,23,24 along with 285 Square feet of Undivided Share, right, title and interest in the Land and bounded as follows: East By: Property bearing No.25, West by:Ramappa and Gopalappa's Property, North by: Ramaiah's Property, South by: Road.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer to the link provided in SVC Co-Operative Bank Ltd., the Secured Creditor's website i.e. **https://www.svcbank.com/Home/Notice-Of-Sale**

Date : 09.07.2020 **Sd/- Authorized Officer**
Place : Bangalore **SVC Co-operative Bank Ltd.**

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Union Bank (A Premier Public Sector Bank)

Shivajinagar Branch
No.40/1, Lady Curzon Road, Shivajinagar, Bangalore-560001

DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Sec.13(2) read with Sec.13(3) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (Act No.2 of 2002)

The Borrower/s : 1) Mr.Manjunath V S/o G.Venkate Gowda, No.1165, 23rd Main, 24th A Cross, HSR Layout Sector-2, Bangalore-560102. **Unit Address: M/s Sri Vaibhav Poultry Farm**, Proprietor: Manjunath V, Modahalli Village, Lokkanahalli Hobli, Kollegal Taluk, Chamarajanagar District, Bangalore-571430. **2) The Guarantor/s: (A) Mrs.Asha N** W/o V.Manjunath, No.1165, 23rd Main, 24th A Cross, HSR Layout Sector-2, Bangalore-560102 **(B) Mr.Govind Babu K,** S/o Kanakashetty, No.316, 25th Cross, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560051.

Dear Sir / Madam,

Notice dt. **05.02.2020** issued to you u/s 13(2) of The Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 by **Shivajinagar Branch**/me, the Authorised Officer, was sent to you calling upon to repay the dues in your loan account/s with us at your last known address could not be served. Therefore, the contents of the said demand notice are being published in this newspaper.

The credit facilities/loan facilities availed by you have been classified as **NPA on 18.01.2020.** You have executed loan documents while availing the facilities and created security interest by mortgaged for the following assets:

Description of Immovable property: 1. Vacant Site No.11, Municipal Corporation Khatha BBMP No.2064/249/11, Chowdeshwari Layout, Begur, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru South. Bounded on East by: Road, West by: Site No.30, North by: Road, South by: Site No.12 standing in the name of N Asha. **2.**Vacant Site No.12, Municipal Corporation Khatha BBMP No.2064/249/12, Chowdeshwari Layout, Begur, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru South. Bounded on East by: Road, West by: Site No.29, North by: Site No.11, South by: Site No.13 standing in the name of K Govinda Raju.

1. No.1,2 of you as borrowers are enjoying the following credit limits with our Bank.

Sl. No	Nature of Limit Loan Account Number	Limit Sanctioned (Rs.in Lakhs)	Outstanding Balance (Rs.in Lakhs)
1	**AGTL/01/130001 NEW NO 560931000263905**	**Rs.200**	**Rs. 142.19**

Therefore, you, No.1,2 as borrower and 3 as guarantor of you in terms of the aforesaid notice have been called upon to pay the aforesaid sum of **Rs.1,43,01,863.29 (Rupees One Crore Forty Three Lakhs One Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Three and Twenty Nine Paise Only)** together with future interest thereon @ 11.75% p.a compounded with monthly interest and cost of notice to the Bank within 60 days from the date of this publication. That on your failure to comply therewith we, the secured creditor, shall be entitled to exercise all or any of the rights under Section 13(4) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002.

In terms of Section 13(13) of the Act you shall not transfer the secured assets aforesaid from the date of receipt of the notice without Bank's prior consent.

While we call upon you to discharge your liability as above by payment of the entire dues to the Bank together with applicable interest, all costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank till repayment and redeem the secured assets, within the period mentioned above, please take note that as per section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act, the right of redemption of secured assets will be available to you only till the date of publication of notice for public auction or inviting quotations or tender from public or private treaty for transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale of the secured assets. Our earlier demand notice stands withdrawn.

Date : 08.07.2020 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bangalore **Erstwhile Corporation Bank (Now Union Bank of India)**

QuoteExpress **THE ONLY CONSTANT IN THE TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY IS CHANGE.** MITCHELL KAPOR

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Madhavanagar
32/1&2, "Crescent Towers" Crescent Road, High Grounds
Bengaluru – 560 001, Tel:080-22375911
Email: sbi.40196@sbi.co.in

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF SALE NOTICE TO BORROWERS/GUARANTORS UNDER SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002

To,

1. **M/s. Ennar Cements Pvt. Ltd.,** No. 10, Pobbathi Market, 37, Basavanna Lane, Avenue Road Cross, Bengaluru-560002. **Also at:** Ahuja Chambers, Room No. 302, 3rd Floor, Kumarakrupa Road, 1st Cross, Bengaluru 560 001. **(II) M/s. Eagle Business Services Pvt. Ltd.,** No.27, SNS Plaza, 2nd Floor, Shivananda Circle, Kumarakrupa Road, Bengaluru-560001. **Also at: ii.** No. 10, Pobbathi Market, 37, Basavanna Lane, Avenue Road Cross, Bengaluru-560002. **(III) Shri. Sushil Khemka** S/o. Late. K.D.Khemka, No. 24, A.E.C.S.Layout, 2nd Cross, Sanjay Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 094. **(IV) Smt. Chandadevi Khemka** W/o. Sushil Kemka. No. 24, A.E.C.S.Layout, 2nd Cross, Sanjay Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 094. **Also at:** # 260, K.E.B. Layout, 1stMain , 3rd Cross, Sanjayanagar, Bengaluru-560094.

Sub: Statutory Notice of 30 days for Sale under Rule 8 (6) read with provision to Rule 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 (herein after called the Rules)

Borrower: M/s. Ennar Cements Pvt. Ltd., and M/s. Eagle Business Services Pvt. Ltd.,

Whereas,, the Authorised Officer of the State Bank of India, had taken Symbolic possession of the below mentioned property on 24.04.2019 under Sec. 13(4) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (herein after called the Act), which have been offered/charged as security by you towards your liability to the Bank amounting to Rs. 6,39,11,415/- (Rupees Six Crores Thirty Nine Lakhs Eleven Thousand Four Hundred Fifteen only) (M/s. Ennar Cement Pvt. Ltd., - Rs. 1,63,79,653/-, Eagle Business Services Pvt. Ltd., – Rs. 4,75,31,762/- as on 24.06.2020 and further interest at contractual rate from 25.06.2020 with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.

Whereas you have failed to satisfy your liability to the Bank even after receipt of the notice under Section 13(2) and Section 13(4) of the Act issued by the undersigned. Therefore, the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India, in exercise of the powers conferred under the Act and the said Rules, issues this notice under Rule 8(6) [Immovables] read with proviso to Rule 9 (1) of the Security Interest [Enforcement] Rules, 2002, for sale of the secured assets to realize the above stated outstandings along with interest, costs, charges and expenses.

Please take notice that the secured assets charged /mortgaged to the Bank more fully described in the schedule hereunder shall be sold by public e-Auction(s) to be held on **12.08.2020** through www.sbi.co.in i.e., https://bankeauction.com. For further details, please refer to the notice to be published in two News papers (one in English and another in Kannada) on 06.07.2020 and at website viz. www.sbi.co.in i.e., https://bankeauction.com.

A copy of the e-auction notice which is intended to be published in the newspapers and the detailed terms & conditions of the e-auction which is intended to be uploaded in the above mentioned websites

Sl No	Description of Immovable Property	Reserve Price
1	All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing No. 21, Khatha No. 973, situated at Dasarahalli Village, KR Puram Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, measuring East to West 52 feet and North to South 55 feet in all totally measuring 2860sq feet, bounded on East by Road, West by: Private Property, North by: Road and South by: Property No. 20.	**Rs. 1.50 Crores**

Place: Bengaluru
Date : 09.07.2020
Sd/-
Authorised Officer

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the General Public that my client **Mrs. NISHA DEVI W/o Mr. Pawan Kumar Singh,** is intending to purchase the **"Schedule Property"** mentioned hereunder from **Mr.SANJEEV** S/o.Mr.Late Povappa Saliyan, r/at No.1512 Sri Devi Krupa, 18 'E' Cross, 3 Main, Vigneshwara Layout, Hoyasalanagar, Bangalore-560016. Any Person/s, Banks, Financial Institution., etc. objecting for the proposed sale or having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the "Schedule property" are hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof **within 7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the advocate mentioned herein failing which our clients shall proceed and complete the Sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the **residential property bearing No.142,** House List Katha No. 218/1, BBMP Katha No.1422, situated at **18th E Cross, 3rd Main, Vigneshwara Layout, Hoyasala -nagar, Horamavu Village, BBMP Ward No.25, Bangalore** in total measuring **1200 Square Feet,** presently coming under the limits of **Bruhat Benga -luru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP),** along with a residential building standing thereon, together with all rights, appurtenances in whatsoever manner whether hereunder or underneath or above the surface and bounded on the : **East by:** Road, **West by :** Site No.143, **North by:** Site No.141, **South by:** Site No. 79

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN- M.A., LL.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants, No.235,(Old No.13), 8th Main, 4th Block, Near SLV Uniworth Classic Apts, Maruthi Badavane, Hennur Cross, Kalyan Nagar Post, Bangalore-560 043. Contact-9845846428.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

COVID-19

04 BENGALURU | THURSDAY 09.07.2020

TRACKING COVID-19

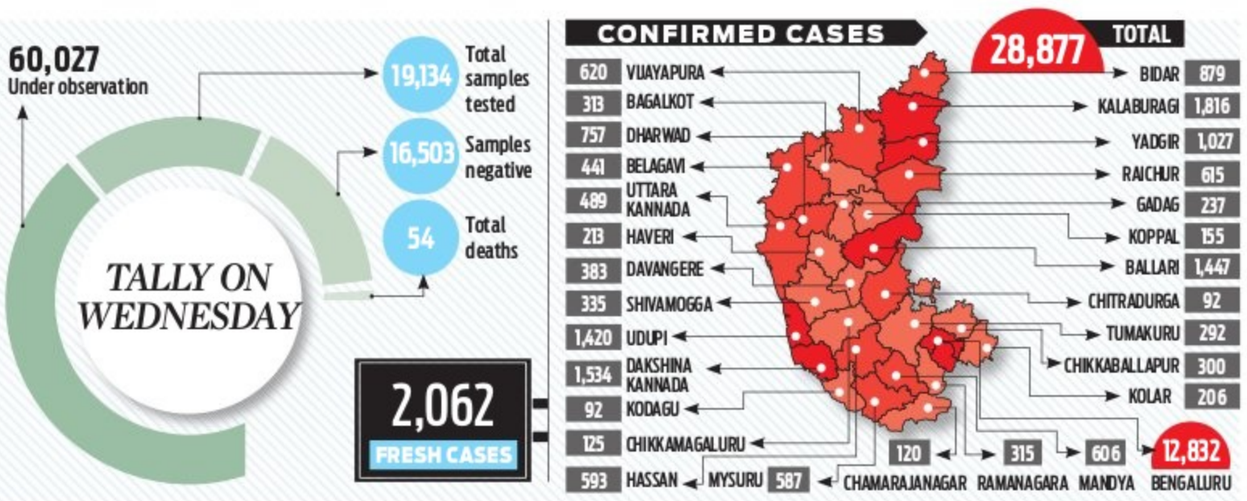
Wilson Garden Maternity Hospital in Bengaluru, a 24-bed BBMP hospital, will now cater to pregnant Covid-positive patients. OT facilities will be available here.

778 NEW RECOVERIES

11,876 TOTAL RECOVERED

HELPLINES
080-46848600
080-66692000

104 Arogya Sahayavani will function too



Medical professionals on duty at Bowring Hospital in Bengaluru on Wednesday | VINOD KUMAR T

KMC to doctors: Lend us your services to fight virus

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE government has requested medical professionals registered with the Karnataka Medical Council to lend their services in the fight against the pandemic.

On the directions from the Medical Education Department, the Karnataka Medical Council (KMC) on Wednesday requested the registered medical professionals to lend a helping hand at the government or private hospitals. "Our State is registering a rapid rise in the number of Covid-19 patients. Your services are urgently required in this hour of crisis," KMC president Dr H Veerabhadrappa stated. The KMC has asked those willing to serve voluntarily to register their names with the Medical Education Department and the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS).

Dr Veerabhadrappa said they are requesting doctors, who have time at their disposal or those who are not employed or practising, to volunteer for the task. "They can work at government hospitals at whatever time convenient to them. They don't have to work for six hours a day. Even if they work for two or three hours a day, that is also good under the present circumstances."

He said since all doctors may not be competent to manage cases in the ICU (Intensive Care Unit) set-up, they can help treating mild and moderate cases, who can be monitored and they can also coordinate and consult with specialist doctors, if need be.

Maharashtra Medical Council too had asked all medical professionals to assist that State in fighting the pandemic, he said. "I am willing to serve in the OPD and monitor the patients. All doctors can help depending on their expertise. However, there is a restriction on age, but with precaution we can always do our best," he said.

"Doctors do complain about shortage of the PPE kits, but the government can be requested to provide the required equipment," he said.

DIDN'T EXPECT THIS SUDDEN SURGE IN NUMBERS: SUDHAKAR

'Anticipated 25K-mark by July-end or Aug first week, but all facilities made' | DyCM Ashwath Narayan says ICUs to be set up at Covid Care Centres

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE state government that had managed the situation well during the lockdown had not anticipated a sudden surge in Covid-19 positive cases during the first week of July. Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar said on Wednesday that they had not expected the increase in numbers to this extent in the first week of July. But, he said, the government has made all arrangements to fight the pandemic.

"After lockdown restrictions were eased, we had expected the numbers to increase. But we did not expect it to reach 25,000 in July first week," he said, adding that they had anticipated this mark by July-end or in August first week. On Wednesday, Karnataka reported 2,062 new cases, taking the total to 28,877.

After attending an emergency meeting called by Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa to review measures taken by the government, Dr Sudakar told the media that they discussed suggestions made by the Central team. The meeting also discussed increasing test numbers, ambulance services and also measures needed to be taken in containment zones to prevent the virus spread.

The CM instructed officials to add 100 more ambulances in Bengaluru, taking the total to 500. Asymptomatic patients can be taken to Covid Care Centres or hospitals in any other vehicles and the government has made arrangements for that, Dr Sudhakar said.

Over the next two days, all the data on patients and ambulances will be fed into the dashboard of Covid war room. Once a person is tested positive, he/she will get a call from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike war room, which will also coordinate with ambulances and Covid Care Centres or hospitals for the patient to be admitted, he said.

The minister said the Bengaluru International Exhibition Centre (BIEC) will be used as Covid Care Centre with 10,000 beds. "Even if we take one doctor for every 100 patients, we need a number of doctors and other staff at the centre and we are working on making these arrangements," he said. Currently, around 200 people are being admitted to CCCs and an equal number of people are being discharged after treatment, he said.

CM to visit BIEC

Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa will visit Bangalore International Exhibition Centre at 4 pm on on Thursday to review Covid-related arrangements.

Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar inspects Broadway Hospital in Shivajinagar, Bengaluru, which will soon be turned into a designated Covid hospital | EXPRESS

3,500 BEDS AT PVT HOSPITALS

Bengaluru: After a meeting with private hospitals, it was decided that 3,500 beds will be set aside for Covid treatment under the centralised bed allocation system. "Apart from beds, private hospitals will also run CCCs in collaboration with hotels to treat asymptomatic and people with mild symptoms. This will add 6,000-7,000 beds," said Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar. The government will procure 1 lakh antigen tests this Saturday and 500 ambulances will be deployed in Bengaluru. Dr C N Manjunath, nodal officer for testing, said that a robot will be deployed at BIEC for specialist doctors to guide juniors. ENS

Bengaluru still better than Mumbai, Chennai: DyCM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

DEPUTY Chief Minister Dr C N Ashwanth Narayan on Wednesday said a sudden surge in Covid-19 positive cases in Bengaluru for "one or two days" has created some confusion, but the situation is fully under control.

Dr Ashwanth Narayan, who is also in charge of Covid Care Centres (CCCs) in the city, said that compared to Mumbai, Chennai and other big cities, the situation in Bengaluru is much better and the government is taking all measures to contain the spread of the virus and also provide treatment to positive patients.

He said that the Indian Council of Medical Research has warned that the pandemic will reach its peak in October and the government has made all preparations to deal with the crisis. There is no need for panic and people should not leave the city out of fear, he said, asking people to cooperate with the government in containing the virus by following guidelines.

He said the number of laboratories and tests conducted per day has increased significantly over the last few days. The government is also setting up Intensive Care Units (ICUs) at CCCs to ensure immediate treatment for critical patients at the same place. The government is taking all steps to ensure that the pandemic does not reach the community transmission stage in the city, he said. He dismissed allegations from opposition leaders that the government did not take adequate steps during the lockdown.

"There is no need for panic and people should not leave the city out of fear. Everyone should cooperate with the government in containing the virus by following guidelines"
- Dr C N Ashwath Narayan, Deputy CM

Need beds, hosps for SARI: Docs

RANJANI MADHAVAN
@Bengaluru

IT is not just Covid-19 patients who are suffering because of lack of beds. Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) patients, who have not done their Covid test or are waiting for their results, too are not being admitted in private or government hospitals for want of test reports.

"We got a patient who was breathless for two days and went to 12 hospitals looking for a bed. He was shunted from one place to another as hospitals insisted on a Covid test. He was pronounced dead in the ambulance by us. We tested him later and it came positive," said a private hospital doctor.

"Isolation beds should be reserved for SARI patients, while they wait for their Covid reports," he said, adding, "The government seems to think that they don't have any responsibility towards these patients as they are not tested. Hospitals are using this to avoid taking in SARI patients.

Echoing the same opinion, Dr C Nagaraj, Director, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Chest Diseases, said, "SARI patients, being referred by private hospitals, don't know where to go. It takes two to three days to get a Covid test result and patients get frustrated running around for beds. Private hospitals do not admit them unless they have a positive report, and they end up coming to government hospitals that are running out of space. We have to identify a separate hospital for such cases."

Dr B R Venkateshaiah, Medical Superintendent, KC General Hospital, said, "We have allocated 100 of 360 beds for corona patients and 260 for SARI, ILI cases. Of them, 250 are already full. Private hospitals should start admitting SARI cases to ease the burden on government hospitals."

COVID WATCH

Covid-positve woman disappears in K'buragi

Kalaburagi: In an odd incident, a 65-year-old woman who tested positive for Covid-19, went missing on Wednesday. Sources said the woman tested positive on Tuesday, and as she had fractured her leg, an ambulance was sent to her home. She lives on the third floor, so health workers asked neighbours to help bring her down. The neighbours refused, and the ambulance returned without the patient. It was called again on Wednesday morning, but the patient was nowhere to be found. Sources said the woman vacated the house on Tuesday night without even informing the owner. Efforts are being made to trace her. ENS

Over 2K cases reported

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

KARNATAKA set a new record by registering 2,062 Covid-19 positive cases in a single day, the highest in the past four months since the onset of the pandemic. Bengaluru Urban recorded 1,148 cases. The State even recorded the highest Covid deaths at 54, of which, 22 were from Bengaluru Urban alone. The total tally of cases in the State is 28,877 while total deaths is 470.

However, on the brighter side, the State saw the highest number of single day discharges at 778, taking the total discharge count to 11,876.

Of the 54 deaths in the State, 27 were cases of Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (SARI), 11 cases of Influenza Like Illness (ILI) and contact tracing being done, and one case of contact of previous patient. The 22 deaths from Bengaluru Urban had 10 cases of SARI, eight of ILI, including a 14-year-old boy. Five cases had contact tracing under progress.

While two deaths are from Raichuru, four from Ballari, three from Hassan, two from Tumakuru and Chikkabalapura, seven are from Dharwad, and two each from Vijayapura, Mysuru and Ramanagara and one each from Bidar, Dakshina Kannada, Kalaburagi, Bengaluru Rural and Chikkamagaluru.

Bengaluru Urban, which recorded 1,148 cases, has all under contact tracing.

With cases rising, residents of Bengaluru's Shanthinagar started their self-imposed lockdown on Wednesday | SHRIRAM BN

B'luru top cop wants treatment centre for police

BALA CHAUHAN @Bengaluru

WITH increasing number of police personnel in the City testing Covid-19 positive, Police Commissioner Bhaskar Rao has requested the Director General and Inspector General of Police (DG&IGP) Praveen Sood for a designated Covid care centre for the police.

As of date, 400 police personnel have tested positive in the City. Of them, 192 have been discharged and five have succumbed to the infection. As a precautionary measure, constables and head constables above the age of 50 years with co-morbid conditions have been asked to work from home.

The Commissioner has also requested the State police chief for financial assistance for providing preventive kits like face shields, masks, gloves and hand sanitizers to the City cops, who are on frontline duty and home quarantine kits for those, who are under home isolation, Rao told *TNIE*. "The cases of Covid-19 infection are on the rise in the police. It is our duty to protect our personnel and their family members. We are tying up with the Covid testing facility at the Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology for our people and would request the lab to fast-track the reports for timely hospitalisation of positive cases," he said.

Rao said that with the spike in cases in the constabulary, who are on frontline duties, there is a need "to help them and their family members with the best medical care, treatment and preventive gear. We have opened a Telegram account for 16,000 police personnel to reach out to them and help them stay in touch with their higher-ups." He added that despite the challenges and health risk, the morale of police is high.

Around 20 police stations have been sealed across the City after positive cases were reported there. "I am going to visit all such police stations, which were sealed and have re-opened, to instil confidence in my people," he said.

Rao said that petty crime in the City has increased in some pockets after people lost their business and jobs due to the pandemic. "There is a shortage of hands, but we have to ensure maintenance of law and order and public safety. Out of 245 Hoysalas (police patrol cars), 36 have been affected because of Covid-19 but we have not decommissioned any of them," he added.

He had earlier issued a slew of directions to police stations to mandatorily observe all precautions including social distancing, temperature check of staff and visitors, while ensuring that no complainant was turned down.

A health worker walks past police officers on duty, in Bengaluru on Wednesday | VINOD KUMAR T

Cases on the rise, but mortality rate in Karnataka remains low at 1.62 per cent

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

OFFICIAL figures show that Delhi (at No. 3 with 1,02,831 cases) has a recovery rate of 72.17 per cent, Gujarat (with 38,419 cases) 71.09 per cent, Uttar Pradesh (31,156 cases) 65.25 per cent, Tamil Nadu (at No. 2 with 1,22,350 cases) 59.96 per cent, and Telangana (with 27,612 cases) 58.98 per cent.

Karnataka's recovery rate has been steadily sliding from July 5 (41.94 per cent) to 41.12 percent on Wednesday (July 8), while the positivity rate has increased from 3.32 per cent on July 5 to 3.80 percent on Wednesday.

However, the state has been able to keep its mortality rate low at just 1.62 per cent as against Gujarat (5.19 per cent), Maharashtra (4.2 per cent), Delhi (3.07 per cent) and Uttar Pradesh (2.71 per cent), with only Telangana (1.13 per cent) and Tamil Nadu (1.37 per cent) faring better on this front.

To gauge how fast the state slipped out of a comfortable position in the initial days of the pandemic — it took Karnataka 65 days from March 8 (when the first Covid-19 case was reported in the state) to reach the 1,000-mark on May 12. And, in less than two months, Karnataka has recorded 28,877 positive cases, of which 11,876 have been discharged while 470 have died, leaving 16,527 active cases currently under treatment.

Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan on Wednesday wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking an effective and coordinated investigation into the gold smuggling case. Pinarayi said the case had "more than one angle, warranting a thorough investigation".

Recoveries surpass active Covid-19 cases in Andhra

1,332 patients discharged from hospitals across state in 24 hours

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Vijayawada

WITH a staggering 1,332 Covid-19 patients getting discharged from hospitals across Andhra Pradesh in the past 24 hours, the tally of discharged persons now exceeds the number of active cases in the State. With the State witnessing a spike in positive cases over the past one week and more than 1,000 cases in the last two days itself, the active case numbers have increased and crossed the 10,000-mark.

According to the media bulletin released by the State Command Control Centre, 1,332 patients got discharged from various hospitals in the State. This took the cumulative number of discharged persons to 11,101 and brought the number of active cases down to 10,894.

Meanwhile, another 1,062 positive cases were recorded in the past 24 hours. This include 1,051 from people within AP, nine from other States and two from other countries. The cumulative positive cases stand at 22,259 in the State.

With the spike in cases after June 1 owing to relaxation of lockdown norms, the number of active cases started to increase and have surpassed the number of discharged on June 20. Since then, the active cases numbers are higher than the recoveries.

Even as the State recorded more than 1,000 cases in the past three days, the number of patients getting discharged too was on the higher side.

The highest number of positive cases emerged from Chittoor district (255) followed by Guntur (173) and East Godavari (125).

Famed folk artiste Nissar dead, Covid suspected

Hyderabad: Popular folk artiste Nissar of the Telangana Praja Natya Mandali, died on Wednesday suspectedly of Covid-19 on Wednesday. On Monday, Nissar (56) complained of breathlessness and was rushed to a hospital. His test results revealed severe pneumonia, indicative of Covid-19. But it is not clear if he was tested for the virus.

Cases dip in Chennai

Chennai: The State on Wednesday recorded 3,756 fresh cases, of which 1,261 were in Chennai -- a substantial dip after breaching the 2,000-mark earlier this month. Minister for electricity P Thangamani, and his son, have tested positive, said sources. The minister is asymptomatic, but both of them have been admitted to a private hospital in the city.

WATER WORLD

With a heavy rainfall in Kodagu in Karnataka and Wayanad in Kerala, there is a steady increase in inflows into KRS and Kabini reservoirs in the Cauvery basin. The KRS Dam has filled up to 100 ft as against its capacity of 124.8 ft with inflows at 8,971 cusecs. Inflows into the Kabini reservoir increased to 11,200 cusecs on Wednesday following heavy rains in Wayanad. The irrigation department released 1,500 cusecs and the reservoir level stood at 2,267.88 ft as against 2,284 ft | PIC: UDAYSHANKAR S

Govt can't curtail rights: Karnataka HC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"AS per the order passed by the National Executive Committee, there is complete prohibition on running schools. There cannot be a dispute that the academic year has already commenced. The only means of providing education or coaching is online. That is why we are of the view that both the orders are in violation of Article 21 and 21-A of the Constitution", the bench said, noting that putting conditions on parents of pre-primary children is very strange.

The bench also said the interim order should not mean that schools can make online classes compulsory or levy extra fees. "It does not mean that students who do not attend online classes be deprived of normal education when schools reopen", it said.

The petitioners have challenged the government's June 15 order banning online/offline education till pre-primary and another order on June 27, permitting limited hours of classes for parents of children of LKG, students of Class 1-5 and restrictions for students of Class 6-10 of state board, CBSE and ICSE.

"The state cannot curtail the rights conferred under Article 21 and 21-A of the Constitution, by issuing orders using powers under Article 162," it said, referring to the state's contention that it issued orders under the Karnataka Education Act to protect the health of children.

The bench said that perhaps, the state government had relied on a May 19 letter by the Nimhans Director to the Commissioner of Public Instruction and noted that the opinion given does not say that online classes for children aged 3-6 is harmful. The director, who participated in the meeting convened by Commissioner on June 2, too did not give a categorical opinion supporting the complete ban on online education, it noted.

"Considering the pandemic situation, there is no reasonable expectation that schools will function after July 31, 2020. The guidelines issued by Ministry of Home Affairs say that distance education/online education should be encouraged. Even the Pragyatha guidelines promote online education, but the state government's orders do not," it said.

PU lecturers to govt: Frame transfer rules

PEARL MARIA D'SOUZA
@Bengaluru

Pre-University lecturers, who are waiting for guidelines on transfers, allege that the department is using unscientific methods to execute the process. Senior lecturers seeking transfers said they have been compelled to teach in the same institutions for the last 20-25 years.

A male lecturer, who has been working in Mysuru for the last 14 years and seeking a transfer within the district, said he has made six attempts, but has reached only the counselling stage. "The department should increase the percentage of transfers from 5," he said.

"We are waiting for the department to call for objections to submit our proposals on the transfer policy," said Ninge Gowda AH, president, Karnataka State Pre-University College Lecturers' Association.

"Every year, some unforeseen circumstances emerge and rectification of guidelines is not given importance. Ideally, the process should start in May, so that it can be completed in time. But every year, it is delayed till August and teachers have to relocate in the middle of the academic year. This not only disrupts the teaching schedule of students but also the children of the teachers," Gowda said.

REACHING THE TOP

K'taka woman 'Best ASHA Worker'

ARPITHA I @Shivamogga

A frontline health worker, Annapurna has juggled her Covid duties of creating awareness and conducting surveys and even stopped the wedding of a child during the pandemic.

The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has lauded **Annapurna**, an Asha worker in Tunganagar, as the 'Best ASHA Worker'.

"Working in containment zones is challenging. Residents get agitated when their area is sealed down. Most residents of Tunganagar are daily wage workers, and they get upset about losing their daily bread. As a result, sometimes we get abused because of their ignorance," said Annapurna.

Aarathi, District ASHA Mentor, told *TNIE* that Annapurna has been an ASHA worker since 2015 in Tunganagar which has a population of 3,000 of which 2,500 live in slums. It also has 10 containment zones. Annapurna carried out her Covid taks smoothly and with patience, she said.

Whenever a person from outside the district or State arrived, Annapurna immediately collected information, screened them for symptoms and send them to quarantine.

"During the pandemic, she stopped a child marriage. As soon as she learned that a minor girl got engaged and her family was making preparations for her wedding, Annapurna convinced both families and prevented it," Aarathi said.

Aarathi said that even before the coronavirus outbreak, Annapurna dedicated herself to her work: taking pregnant women to PHCs, giving their status to the government, following up on the health of infants discharged from intensive care and referring malnourished children to the health department.

'We have asked govt to allow PG students to work'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

DR Naresh Shetty, president of M S Ramaiah Memorial Hospital said that they have started recruitment, but those coming for interviews are reluctant to join Covid duty. "There is not enough confidence among the staff as they are at a higher risk. Quite a few from our own hospital have left. Even though we have beds, we have less staff to take care of patients. We are managing as of now, but we need more staff."

Dr R Ravindra, president of the Private Hospitals and Nursing Homes Association revealed that private hospital are facing an acute shortage of staff and they have asked the government to allow them to rope in PG students who could be trained for Covid services.

"We have asked the State Government to allow PG students to start working, they can be trained. The government has promised to look into the matter. Meanwhile, Kerala and Maharashtra have offered to send us doctors and nurses, but they are asking exorbitant rates which now we cannot afford. Even though recruitments are on in many hospitals, and even incentives are being offered, people are not coming forward to work," he said.

TNPL TAMIL NADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136, Karur District, Tamil Nadu,
Phone No. 04324-277001 (10 lines), Mail : purchase.lsfm@tnpl.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due Date
202133 000160	Procurement of Cement Grade Lime Stone 76 - 78% CACO3	20.07.2020

Detailed Terms & Conditions, Tender Fee, EMD, etc. are available in Tender document at our Websites : www.tnpl.com / www.tenders.tn.gov.in
DIPR/2522/Tender/2020 TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF ANDHRA PRADESH LIMITED
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

1. The APTRANSCO (Transmission Corporation of Andhra Pradesh Limited) invites bids on e-procurement platform for supply of following Power Transformers for providing 9 Hrs. Agl.Power supply in day time and augmentation works:

Sl. No.	Tender Specification No.	Name of the equipment	Quantity in Nos.	Tender availability Date
1	PMM 21-e-08/2020	160MVA, 220/132/11KV Auto Transformers	10 Nos.	09-07-2020
2	PMM 23-e-11/2020	Lot-I: 80MVA, 132/33kV Power Transformers Lot-II: 50MVA, 132/33kV Power Transformers Lot-III: 50MVA, 220/33kV Power Transformers	Lot-I: 11Nos. Lot-II: 21 Nos. Lot-III: 13 Nos.	

2. The interests bidders are be required to enroll themselves on the e-procurement market place at www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in
3. Complete set of bidding documents are available at www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.
Phone / Fax No.0866-2429230, Extn : 2014; 2034; 2031
Sd/- Chief Engineer/ Transmission, Vidyut Soudha, Vijayawada, AP
DIPR No.165PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2020-21, Dt.08/07/2020

ODISHA JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION - 2020 [OJEE - 2020]

No: OJEE/182 Date: 08.07.2020
NOTICE
Reopening of OJEE portal for online application and fee payment
In view of the current situation arising from COVID-19 pandemics, it is hereby announced that the application portal for on-line application for various courses are reopened and the last dates of form filling and fee payment are as mentioned below.

Type of Course / Application form	Last date for submission of online application forms	Last date for online fee payment
All Courses (B.Pharm/ MBA / MCA / M.Tech/ M.Tech (Part Time)/ M.Arch/ M Plan/ M.Pharm/ Int. MBA, LE-Tech (Dip), LE-Tech (BSc), LE- Pharm and B. Tech. (Special OJEE) (Applications A, B, C, D, E and F)	25-07-2020	31-07-2020

The detailed schedule regarding dates of Examination and dates for downloading of Admit Cards etc. will be notified in due course of time, after assessment of the situation after 31.07.2020.
Sd/-
CHAIRMAN, OJEE, ODISHA

TAMIL NADU TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD.
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (E-TENDERING PROCESS)

Sl. No	Tender Inviting Authority	Specification No.	Total
1	SE/Transmission-II	T-2151, T-2152, T-2153, T-2154, T-2155	5

For details of works/Procurement/Due date of submission/opening Corrigendum, Due date extension, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit websites: www.tantransco.gov.in, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app.
DIPR/2529/TENDER/2020

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
PALLAVAPURAM MUNICIPALITY
E-Tendering Notice
Roc.No.5527/2018/E1, Dated.08.07.2020
Government of Tamilnadu Sanctioned for **Removal of legacy Waste Dumped in the Venkatamangalam compost Yard Through Bio-Mining** for Pallavapuram Municipality under **SBM 2019-20 and 2020-21** Under this scheme the Municipal Commissioner, Pallavapuram invites sealed bids from the eligible and qualified contractors for the following work as detailed in the table given below.

Sl. No.	Estimate Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)	Tender Document available	Tender Opening	Period of completion
1	956.00	From 09.07.2020 to 11.08.2020 (3.00 PM)	12.08.2020 (3.30 PM)	12 Months

Pre-Bid meeting will be held on **03.08.2020** at **03.00 PM** in the office of Pallavapuram Municipality.
Tender document and schedule available in **http://tntenders.gov.in** can be downloaded at free of cost from **09.07.2020.** The Bidding document will be received by the Commissioner, Pallavapuram by way of off-line and e-submission also in two cover system upto **12.08.2020, 3.00 PM.** Earnest Money Deposit **1%** of the value of work should be submitted along with the tender. If E-Tender submission, the EMD should be dropped in the tender box before closure time, it is by **3.00 PM** on **12.08.2020.** E-valuation of bid will be done as per Tender Transperancy Act 1998 of Government of Tamilnadu and rules there us. If the said tender date happens to be a holiday, the tenders will be opened on the next working day. The Municipal Commissioner reserves the rights to accept or reject any bidding document at any time without assigning any reason there of. Eligibility criteria and other details can be had from the Bidding document.
For the details contact E-Mail Address: **commr.pallavapuram@tn.gov.in**
DIPR/2566/TENDER/2020 Commissioner, Pallavapuram Municipality

TAMIL NADU HOUSING BOARD
SPECIAL PROJECT CIRCLE-1
FIRST TIME EXTENSION OF TENDER NOTIFICATION Dt. : 08-07-2020
Due to administrative reasons, this office Short Term Tender Notice No.: SE/SPC-1/03/2020-2021 DT: 24-06-2020 for the Pre-qualification work has been extended as follows :
Last Date of receipt of Pre-qualification Tender : 24-07-2020 @ 11.00 AM
Opening of Tender : 24-07-2020 @ 11.30 AM
All other conditions will remain unchanged.
Place : Special Project Circle-1.
Tamil Nadu Housing Board,
493, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai - 35.
DIPR/2568/TENDER/2020 Superintending Engineer / TNHB Special Project Circle-1.

MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Corporate Office, MESCOM Bhavana, Bejai, Mangaluru - 575 004
CIN: U40109KA2002 SGC 030425 Website: www.mesco.in
Ph: 0824-2885795, E-mail: sepmescom@gmail.com
No. MESCOM/SEE(P)/EE(W)/AEE(W)/2020-21/4537 Date: 04.07.2020
TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-Procurement Mode Only)
MESCOM invites tender for the work of **"Reconductoring work with conversion of existing single circuit to double circuit line of 33kv Bantwal- Sarapady MRPL feeder from 110/33/11kV Bantwal MUSS to Sanchayanagiri to a distance of 3.85kms in Bantwal No. 1, Sub-division of Bantwal Division on Total Turnkey basis"** vide bid enquiry number MESCOM/2020-21/EL/WORK_INDENT1502.
The interested eligible bidders may log on to www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 13.07.2020.
Superintending Engineer (Ele.) (Proc.)
MESCOM, Mangalore
For Power Related Complaint & Assistance Cell Toll Free Number 1912

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BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of The Executive Engineer, Malleshwaram Division, 2nd Cross, Jaladarshini Layout, MSR Nagar, Mathikere, Bangalore-560054
No.EE/MLM/E-PROC/03/2020-21 DATE : 08.07.2020
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Only Through GOK e-Procurement Portal)
Tender for the following work on item rate basis are invited as Standard Bid Document KW-1 & 2 by the Executive Engineer, Malleshwaram Division on behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP from the registered Contractors Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD/ KPWD/ Railways/ MES / any State Organisation may apply through e-procurement portal as per schedule of events.

SL No.	Ward Nos.	Approximate value of work (Rs. In Lakhs)	EMD (In Rupees)	Category	No. of Works
1	35	5.00 to 35.00	12,500.00 to 70,000.00	Others	5
2	35	20.00	25,000.00	SC	1
3	36	6.00 to 40.00	15,000.00 to 50,000.00	Others	6
4	36	10.00	25,000.00	ST	1
5	45	5.00 to 40.00	12,500.00 to 1,00,000.00	Others	12
6	45	5.00 to 32.00	6,250.00 to 40,000.00	SC	6
7	45	5.00 to 20.00	6,250.00 to 78,750.00	ST	3
8	64	10.00 to 30.00	25,000.00 to 60,000.00	Others	4
9	64	3.00 to 15.00	3,750.00 to 18,750.00	SC	2
10	65	5.00 to 20.00	12,500.00 to 50,000.00	Others	12
11	65	10.00 to 40.00	12,500.00 to 50,000.00	SC	2
12	65	2.50 to 50.00	3,125.00 to 62,500.00	ST	4
13	66	2.50 to 20.00	6,250.00 to 50,000.00	Others	17
14	66	10.00	12,500.00	SC	1
15	66	10.00 to 30.00	12,500.00 to 37,500.00	ST	3
16	76	2.00 to 50.00	5,000.00 to 1,25,000.00	Others	14
17	76	10.00 to 50.00	12,500.00 to 62,500.00	SC	2
18	76	10.00	12,500.00	ST	1

(1) Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders within **07.08.2020 from 4.00 PM onwards** (2) Last Date & Time for receipt of tender difference amount within **13.08.2020 upto 4.30 P.M** (3) Date & Time of Opening Technical Bid at **10.08.2020 at 4.00 PM**. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Malleshwaram Division
Pay Development Charges-Help To Develop Bengaluru

Every Monday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
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GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
Highways and Minor Ports Department
TAMIL NADU ROAD DEVELOPMENT COMPANY (TNRDC)
INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION
Date : 9th July 2020
IFP No. : TNRDC/CPRR/JICA/PQ/002/2020
Employer : Highways and Minor Ports Department, Govt. of Tamil Nadu
Country : India
JICA Loan No. : ID-P278 dated January 18, 2019
Project Name : Construction of Chennai Peripheral Ring Road (Phase-I)
Contract Name : Construction of Chennai Peripheral Ring Road Phase-I (Northern Port Access Road) (NPAR) Connecting Ennore Port with Thatchur on NH-5 including Link Road to Chennai Outer Ring Road from NPAR

1. The Highways and Minor Ports Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, India has received a loan from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) towards the cost of Construction of Chennai Peripheral Ring Road (Phase-I) (hereinafter called "the Project") and intends to apply part of the proceeds towards payments under the contracts for Construction of Chennai Peripheral Ring Road Phase-I (Northern Port Access Road) resulting from the bidding for which this prequalification is conducted.
2. The Tamil Nadu Road Development Company Ltd (TNRDC) now intends to prequalify firms for the Construction of Chennai Peripheral Ring Road Phase-I (Northern Port Access Road)(NPAR) Connecting Ennore Port with Thatchur on NH-5 including Link Road to Chennai Outer Ring Road from NPAR.
3. It is expected that Invitation for Bids will be made in November 2020.
4. Pre-qualification will be conducted through procedures in accordance with the applicable Guidelines for Procurement under Japanese ODA Loans, and is open to all Applicants from eligible source countries, as defined in the Prequalification Document.
5. Interested Applicants may obtain further information from and inspect the Pre-qualification Document during office hours at:
M/s. Tamil Nadu Road Development Company Ltd, Chief General Manager
No.171, II Floor, Tamil Nadu Maritime Board Building, South Kesavaperumal Puram,
(Near Greenways Road MRTS Station), Raja Annamalai Puram, Chennai,
Tamil Nadu, India. PIN : 600 028 (From 10.00 Hrs. to 16.00 Hrs.)
Phone: 91-44-2495 2890 / 3800 - Fax: 91-44-2493 3800
E-Mail: tenders@tnrdc.com - Web: www.tnrdc.com
6. The Prequalification Document may be purchased by interested Applicants on the submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **INR 15,000/- or US$200/- (Including GST).** The method of payment will be Account Payee Demand Draft/Bankers Cheque in favour of Tamil Nadu Road Development Company Ltd, Payable at Chennai or through the online or offline through NEFT/RTGS to the Account of Tamil Nadu Road Development Company Ltd (TNRDC), A/c No.1219129000000425, IFSC Code:KVBL0001219, Karur Vysya Bank, Whites Road Branch, Chennai. The document will be sent by Courier/Post or can be collected by the Authorised Representative of the Applicant.
7. Applications for Prequalification must be delivered to the address mentioned above in para 5 on or **before 16:00 Hours on 04 September 2020.**
DIPR/557/DISPLAY/2020

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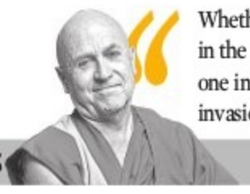
EDITORIAL



"Whether executed or succumbing to torture and famine in the camps and prisons, more than a million Tibetans—one in five of the population—died following the Chinese invasion ... Six thousand monasteries were destroyed"

Matthieu Ricard

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

PUSH BACK AGAINST DRACONIAN U.S. IMMIGRATION RULE

The Trump administration, after banning visas for foreign workers last month, has delivered another blow. New rules of the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for foreign students in American universities say if their courses have moved entirely online for the Fall period, they cannot stay in the country anymore. Fearing the continuing pandemic numbers in the US and the need for physical distancing, some of the universities have announced a mix of online and in-person classes for the coming season; but a number of prestigious institutions—Harvard, Princeton, Rutgers and Georgetown, among others—have announced mostly online courses. The ICE directive applies to the F-1 and M-1 category of visas that cover non-immigrant students in academic and vocational courses.

This new directive is likely to hit nearly a million foreign students. Of these, more than half are from Asia—3,70,000 from China, 2,02,000 from India and 52,000 from South Korea. Besides uprooting them midstream, the students, when they return home, are in a quandary whether or not to continue their US courses. The remote, online versions will not be much cheaper, with most universities barely offering discounts of 10% or thereabouts. This new ICE directive is yet another example of Donald Trump using the cover of the Covid-19 pandemic to implement his anti-immigration programme. In a disturbed environment, is it necessary to uproot economically vulnerable foreign students?

The US should reconsider the decision, considering it will have a serious impact on the economy of the universities. According to the Institute of International Education, Asian students in 2018 contributed as much as $25 billion to their kitty. By now, with the spurt in enrolments, the figure would be much higher. Meanwhile, the new visa norms should hopefully move the US universities to rework their Fall courses to a more hybrid variety that includes both in-person as well as online attendance. India's foreign ministry too should put pressure on the US administration to roll back this diktat, considering the large number of Indian students who are likely to be adversely affected.

ENSURE CORONA NORMS ARE FOLLOWED

On Sunday last, something disturbing happened in Odisha's Cuttack. A group of people who tested positive for the coronavirus were being moved from the Acharya Harihar Post Graduate Institute of Cancer (AHPGIC) to a designated Covid hospital. When asked to board a bus, they created a ruckus and even threatened to infect people around them through physical contact. The act looked outrageous on the face of it but bear their plight in mind. Some of them were patients admitted to the AHPGIC for cancer treatment but ended up getting infected with the deadly Covid-19. In the last two days, at least 12 deaths, including that of two cancer patients, have been reported from Odisha. To cut a long story short, premier healthcare institutions such as the cancer facility, the state's biggest, had to bear the brunt of a cluster of over 110 cases due to the absence of a standard operating procedure. Similar spikes have been reported from other major healthcare facilities of the state. A private hospital in capital Bhubaneswar, where over 50 Covid cases were detected within no time, was sealed for violation of guidelines. Alarmed by the case load, the Odisha government has issued an SOP and made testing mandatory for every patient seeking treatment in hospitals.

Even as the surge in positive cases takes the Covid tally past 10,000 in Odisha, more and more public offices are falling 'sick'. Banks, transport, and municipal offices are being shut down for temporary periods following detection of cases. The Bhubaneswar campus of an IT major was also sealed. While such incidents are expected, the trend must be arrested at once as they point to a clear lack of adherence to guidelines, even in government establishments that must function to deliver key services during such a juncture. The Naveen Patnaik government, when it initiated Unlock 2, had put the onus on individual establishments and their respective heads to stick to the norms. It must see that the guidelines are followed in letter and spirit, lest important service providers, including frontline workers, get affected. The Covid battle is going to be a long haul and the state needs to be extremely careful from now on.

For China to be accepted as a dominant power, other countries should look up to it and follow its lead. But the way of life there is not attractive to the Chinese themselves

HOW TO TAME THE DRAGON

MAKARAND R PARANJAPE

Director, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla. Views are personal

AMIT BANDRE

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

The world's worst nightmare over China's "peaceful rise" has come true. Once the "rise" has been accomplished, "peaceful" is the glaring casualty. Though coined by Hu Jintao, the leader who most embodied this doctrine was Deng Xiaoping. Conscious of the danger of an aggressive China, he assured the world that it would never become a superpower or seek hegemony. Addressing the United Nations General Assembly on 10 April 1974, he said, "A superpower is an imperialist country which everywhere subjects other countries to its aggression, interference, control, subversion or plunder and strives for world hegemony." Premier Wen Jiabao, on the eve of his visit to Indonesia and Malaysia in April 2011, repeated Deng's assurance: "China will never seek hegemony."

But by Deng's and Wen's own definitions, China has become worse than a hegemon. It is now a belligerent bully bent upon establishing its dominance by all the means at its disposal. China has bared its fangs to show its true face to the world. Its earlier leaders may have tried to allay the fears of those alarmed at the prospect of the Asian giant re-emerging from centuries of slumber. But when it comes to Xi Jinping, such doubts should forever be laid to rest. Xi's single-minded pursuit of making China the world's foremost superpower can no longer be hidden or camouflaged.

China has considerable strengths to achieve its ends—military might, combined with economic clout. What is the way out for the world, especially countries like India that are in close proximity and that face the brunt of the fire-breathing dragon on their borders? The answer lies in the third kind of power that China lacks: respect, credibility and socio-cultural appeal. Along with military and economic power, non-coercive soft power is also necessary to maintain supremacy and to co-opt dissent. For China to be accepted as a dominant power, a rival, if not replacement, for the US, other countries should look up to it and follow its lead. For this, the Chinese way of life also must be attractive to people all over the world. But this is far from the case. In fact, the Chinese way of life is probably not attractive to the Chinese themselves.

In Hong Kong, for example, a pall of gloom has descended after the change of its security laws. The new laws effectively do away with the freedoms that the island's citizens were guaranteed under the 'one nation, two systems' handover agreement with the UK. The Taiwanese would also not like to be a part of the present Chinese system. Within China too, there is a flight of millionaires whenever emigration opens up and a flight of capital whenever currency controls are eased by the government. If the best-off in China had faith in their own system, why would they want to leave? Or why would the Chinese rich want to park their money overseas if they trusted their own government?

The world over, there is tremendous resentment because of the Wuhan virus and the way China handled it. While within its own borders, the authoritarian state apparently managed the pandemic well, no one believes in the official narrative. We don't know where the virus originated for sure, whether in the wet markets as claimed by the Chinese authorities or, actually, in a laboratory as some have alleged. China's complicity in misleading the world through its influence in the World Health Organisation is also now quite well-established. How many have died in China or what are the actual number of infections is also pretty much anyone's guess.

> Within China, there is a flight of millionaires whenever emigration opens up and a flight of capital whenever currency controls are eased by the government. If the best-off in China had faith in their own system, why would they want to leave? Or why would the Chinese rich want to park their money overseas if they trusted their own government?

As the world readies to counter the Chinese threat, no one should be overly surprised or dismayed by the new normal. Superpowers, despite their official postures, will flex their muscles to achieve their ends. World history has shown this repeatedly. China, after centuries of relative dormancy, has now risen to unprecedented heights as a successful and powerful state. It has not only modernised itself but pulled off a near-miraculous state-created capitalism totally at odds with the official ideology of its one-party Communist regime. But this also means that the 1.4 billion Chinese live a life of daily contradiction. Their official state dogma says one thing and their actual lived reality is totally different. This is where the real fault line of China lies. It is this that its opponents should expose and exploit.

China, thus, is most vulnerable as far as its soft power is concerned. More prosperous than ever, China is also less free than possibly even under Mao. It is this paradox that we need to highlight. In addition, Chinese companies and apps are viewed with great distrust because they are thought to be spying for their government back home. Finally, the great weakness of all empires comes from over-extension. The debt-trap of the Belt and Road initiative has many of its erstwhile beneficiaries reeling. A Sino-centric world does not seem all that attractive anymore.

It is in this light that we must remind the Chinese people and the world of Deng's prophetic plea: "If one day China should change her colour and turn into a superpower, if she too should play the tyrant in the world, and everywhere subject others to her bullying, aggression and exploitation, the people of the world should identify her social imperialism, expose it, oppose it and work together with the Chinese people to overthrow it."

The time has come to do precisely this.

(Tweets @MakrandParanspe)

MAKE COVID DRUG REMDESIVIR AFFORDABLE

BISWAJIT DHAR

Professor, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, School of Social Sciences, JNU

K M GOPAKUMAR

Legal Advisor, Third World Network

In a significant development, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has approved the manufacturing and marketing of generic versions of the anti-Covid drug, remdesivir, by four companies, namely Cipla Ltd, Hetero Ltd, Jubilant Lifesciences and Mylan Ltd. The approvals were granted under CDSCO's Restricted Emergency Use. The generic drug manufacturing companies were able to organise production of remdesivir after the originator company of the drug, Gilead Sciences, had granted voluntary licences to companies in India, Egypt and Pakistan to produce it for distribution in 127 developing countries. The other Indian companies that have received such licences are Dr Reddy's Laboratories Ltd, Syngene and Zydus Cadila Healthcare Ltd.

In its order, the CDSCO stated that the approvals were granted for the same indication, restriction and conditions for use as was stipulated for the innovator company. Gilead had received an emergency use authorisation from the Federal Drug Administration of the US, which had stipulated that the drug had to be administered intravenously by healthcare providers to treat Covid patients with low blood oxygen levels.

The use of remdesivir for Covid treatment has raised two sets of questions. The first is about the efficacy of the drug, which, according to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of the US, could reduce the average number of days of hospitalisation for a Covid patient from 15 days to 11 days. Mortality rates of patients who were treated with remdesivir and those who were not, look quite similar (8% versus 11.6%). And finally, remdesivir cannot be used in all Covid cases, but only for the most serious ones.

The more critical questions are regarding the affordability of the drug. Last month, Gilead announced that for government healthcare programmes, remdesivir would be priced at $390 per vial of 100 milligrams, while private insurance companies would be charged $520 per vial. Typically, a patient would require six vials for a five-day treatment, implying a per patient cost of $2,340 to $3,120. But the actual cost the patient has to bear will be higher, given that remdesivir can only be given intravenously in hospitals.

A few days before Gilead announced its price, Cipla and Hetero announced the prices of their versions, Cipremi and Covifor, respectively. The price of Cipremi is ₹4,000 per vial, while that of Covifor, ₹5,400. Thus, for a five-day treatment, a patient would have to pay anywhere between ₹24,000 and ₹32,400 only as the cost of the drug. The hospitals will then weigh in with their charges, which have been quite considerable. The one question that arises instantly is the affordability of the versions that the generic companies are marketing.

> The licensing agreement between Gilead, the innovator company, and generic firms in India said the latter would be free to set their own prices. Indian generics have priced their products higher than the maximum reasonable price in the US. So there is a strong case for the Centre to step in and make remdesivir affordable

The licensing agreement between Gilead and the generic companies said the latter would be free to set their own prices and that the licensor will not charge royalties until the World Health Organisation declares the end of the Public Health Emergency of International Concern regarding Covid-19, or until a pharmaceutical product other than remdesivir or a vaccine is approved to treat or prevent Covid-19, whichever is earlier. And yet, the prices fixed for Cipremi and Covifor are only between 10 and 7 times lower than the prices in the US, whereas India's per capita income in 2019 was 31 times lower than that of the US. And, of course, poverty and income inequality in India is considerably higher. Thus, this drug for treating severe cases of Covid is well beyond the means of an overwhelmingly large share of Indians.

The prices for remdesivir announced by Gilead Sciences for the US have also been questioned extensively While it is usual for drug companies to base the price of products on their development costs, the case of remdesivir is different for two reasons. First, Gilead had developed remdesivir as a part of a family of drugs for treating chronic Hepatitis C. Given that the company had successfully launched other drugs for Hepatitis C, it is reasonable to assume that its costs for developing remdesivir have already been recouped. Secondly, Public Citizen, an advocacy group based in the US, disclosed that Gilead had received public financial support of $70.5 million for developing remdesivir. According to the group, the price of the treatment using remdesivir should be fixed at $1 per day.

A recent study by the US-based Institute for Clinical and Economic Review concluded that remdesivir should cost a patient no more than between $10 to $310 for a five-day treatment, after factoring in the contributions from the public exchequer. These numbers show that the Indian generics have priced their products higher than the maximum reasonable price in the US.

Under the circumstances, there is a strong case for the Government of India to step in for making remdesivir affordable. In May, a number of health groups had petitioned the government to revoke Gilead's patent on remdesivir in India, thus allowing generic competition to lower its price. Apart from considering this, the government must enter into bulk procurement of the drug to ensure its affordability. And, finally, strong pharmaco-vigilance must be put in place to generate data on efficacy and adverse events associated with the use of this drug.

(bisjit@gmail.com)

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WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Criminal-cop-politico links

This is with reference to *Unravelling the nexus between criminals, politicians and cops* (July 8). The editorial highlights the criminal-politician-police nexus prevailing in the country. There are even shameful instances of criminals being honoured by politicians. If the higher-ups had acted on the letter of the slain DSP, his death may have been prevented. The Yogi government should spare no effort in bringing the criminal to justice.
Hemantha Bhide, Mangaluru

Revamp police training

There is an urgent need to revamp the police force's recruitment and training processes. In a society where success is being measured mainly in terms of one's wealth, this may be difficult to implement, but it must be done.
P Jayaprakash, Ottapalam

Civilisations and values

This is with reference to *It's a civilisational conflict, not a border issue* (July 8). The article brought out the popular notion that history paves the way for current politics and current politics later becomes history. The inherent values that we still follow are the ones required of leading nations.
Vinod Narayanan, T'puram

Ban polluting masks

Reports state that masks made of non-woven polypropylene are being widely used as they are cheap and easily available. But just like polythene bags, these masks will take decades to decompose. The powers that be should take cognisance of this environmental degradation and ban the usage of masks that hurt the environment.
S Vaithianathan, Madurai

Shadow over Kerala CM

The customs department has done a good job in seizing 30 kg of gold smuggled from the UAE to its consulate in Kerala via diplomatic baggage. The state government removing the CM's secretary M Sivasankar from his post due to allegations of his link to the smuggling raises serious questions. It also casts a shadow over CM Pinarayi Vijayan.
K A Solaman, Alappuzha

How was she appointed?

While the Kerala CM has rightly removed Sivasankar for his alleged connections with the prime suspect, Swapna Suresh, his justification over her appointment in the IT department is unconvincing. It is unfortunate that the government did not properly vet her before offering her such a sensitive post.
Sudhakar Cherukunnu, Kannur

Threat to nation

The gold smuggling incident in Thiruvananthapuram highlights how smuggling is a great threat to our nation. Kudos to the customs and intelligence team for handling the case properly while ensuring our relationship with the UAE is not affected.
Gokul Krishna, Kottayam

Upgrading ourselves

This is with reference to *Life after Covid: It's a machine world* (July 8). The analysis of digitisation that is spreading across the world is undoubtedly food for thought. Survival will be a universal challenge even after the virus is brought under control. People will have to upgrade themselves to fit in this digital world. The illustration that accompanied the article was apt.
Varadharajan A, Sirkazhi

BCCI back to old ways

This is with reference to *A critical question the BCCI has to answer* (July 7). The BCCI has never believed in transparency. It is disappointing that the present incumbents are also resorting to the methods adopted by former officials. As the editorial rightly points out, relaxing the body's regulations will take it back to its pre-reform days. Let us hope that the apex court does not allow it.
Vijay Kumar C, Bengaluru

Comparison makes no sense

Many reports in different outlets earlier this week noted India has overtaken Russia in the number of Covid cases. Comparing a country like India with a nation like Russia does not make sense given the former's huge population.
P K Jayanandan, Kozhikode

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Tejashwi Yadav @yadavtejashwi
We will offer #Bihar a completely new blueprint for a radical transformation in education, health and agriculture.

Sitaram Yechury @SitaramYechury
Using pandemic, govt is deleting sections on India's plurality etc. from the Higher Secondary syllabus.

Biplab Kumar Deb @BjpBiplab
Rahul ji, Please tell us for what price the villain of Bhopal Gas tragedy Warren Anderson was allowed to leave India

'50K more docs needed to reduce deaths'

While early lockdown helped the government prepare for managing the Covid-19, we need to have a 'fluid workforce' in healthcare which should be diverted wherever there is a peak, said ***Dr Devi Shetty, Chairman, Narayana Health, Bengaluru,*** *in a conversation with* ***Prabhu Chawla, Editorial Director,*** *The New Indian Express, and senior journalist* ***Kaveree Bamzai*** *on TNIE's Expressions, a series of live web casts with people who matter.*

EXPRESS expressions FEAR NONE. FAVOUR NONE

Q&A

There is still a lot of panic and fear related to Covid19 even though the disease mortality in India is among the lowest. How successful in hindsight has the lockdown been? Also, was that time used to the best that we could?

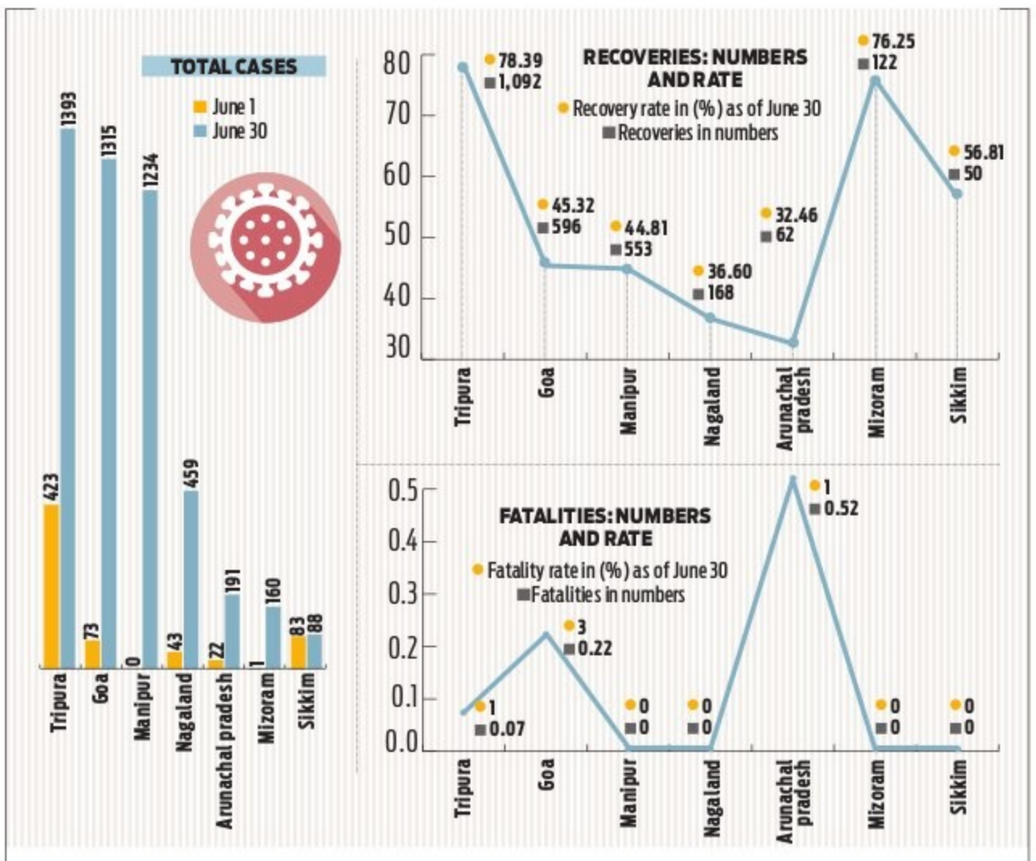
The best strategic decision that the Indian government took was to go for an early lockdown and the second best decision they took was to extend it. When Covid entered India, we knew it would spread and we needed to be prepared. A key requirement to protect our healthcare workers, Personal Protective Equipment, for example, was a must and at that time there were only three local manufacturers making it in India. They were nowhere close to fulfilling the needs of a country of 1.3 billion people. Two months into the lockdown, with the government interventions we have over 100 PPE manufacturers. Also, if the lockdown would have been delayed, the health system would have been overwhelmed and half the country's doctors would have been infected without proper attire. Our understanding of the disease has also evolved.

You had been suggesting two key things to contain the outbreak — one to relax the norms to allow trained healthcare workers to take over the case management and setting up large centres for Covid-19 patients instead of spreading them over to small centres. It does not look like much has happened on that front. Do you agree?

In Karnataka, initially when the cases were low — it was mainly one or two government hospitals which were managing Covid-19 patients. On the other issue of relaxing norms for health professionals, I am optimistic. If we have to reduce mortality, we need about 50,000 more doctors and about 1.5 -2 lakh nurses. This should be a fluid workforce and should be diverted wherever there is a peak as there would be multiple peaks in India at different times. There are about 25,000 doctors pursuing speciality degrees but have not completed them; they can be utilised and sent to work in district hospitals.

Over the years, India's focus changed from infectious disease to lifestyle disease? Is that in some way impacting our management of the Covid crisis or do you think some kind of re-engineering of medical system is needed?

It is interesting how policy makers run the policies in order to protect people. For example, in most developing countries, tuberculosis, malaria and HIV get a lot of focus. These three diseases kill nearly 3 million people every year. On the other hand, lack of basic surgeries such as emergency C-section, laparotomy and those for compound fractures kill about 17 million people annually. If we design our health system around surgeries rather than managing diseases, including infectious disease, we can do much better. Community health centres that are equipped to carry out simple surgeries can manage many other diseases but it cannot be other way round. Our healthcare strategy has to change to build medical infrastructure around surgeries.



Small states, big jump in fresh corona cases

KUMAR VIKRAM AND SANA SHAKIL @ New Delhi

Dr Maharudra Kumbhar, officer on special duty, demonstrates the plasma separator machine at a donation facility at Seven Hills Hospital, Mumbai | PTI

MOST of the smaller states and Union Territories recorded a steep rise in Covid-19 cases during the one-month Unlock 1.0 period in June. These states, including in the Northeast, Goa, Puducherry and a few others, had very few cases when Unlock-1.0 kicked in on June 1. But the number went up more than 10 times by the end of the month.

A closer look at the data on the spread of Covid-19 cases across the country shows that many smaller states had cases in the range of 5-100. Mizoram and Sikkim had just one confirmed Covid-19 case each on June 1 when Unlock-1 unfolded.

But, the number of confirmed cases went up to 160 in Mizoram and 88 in Sikkim by June 30.

Similarly, Nagaland had 43 cases on June 1, but the figure crossed the 450-mark by the end of Unlock-1.0, recording a rise of more than 10 times.

Manipur also observed a similar trend with cases rising from 83 to 1,227 in one month. With the number rising, Manipur has now been placed under strict lockdown till July 15.

Tripura topped the smaller states with nearly 1,400 cases on June 30. But, the state has not recorded as steep a jump as other Northeast states: it had 423 cases on June 1, which rose to 1,393 on June 30.

Arunachal Pradesh was among the states that successfully managed to control the rise as the cases increased from 22 to 191 during the one-month span.

The Northeast states are among the ones with the lowest fatalities in the country: among them, they have recorded only three Covid-19 deaths so far, one each in Tripura, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh.

A spurt in positive cases last month has forced many N-E states to extend the lockdown. While some have extended it till July-end, the others have gone in for 14 days. These states include Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya and Nagaland.

Tourist destination Goa is also among the smaller states recording a substantial rise in cases; the figure rose by nearly 15 times from 73 to 1,315 over the one-month span. Goa has re-opened for domestic tourism and hotels have been told to take bookings with certain precautions spelt out by local authorities.

Epidemiologist Jammi N Rao, who has experience in working with the Indian Council of Medical Research, Hyderabad, and in the UK National Health Service, said the steep rise in cases in smaller states indicates that the lockdown was not properly enforced.

"The incubation period of Covid-19 is 14-28 days. If there are more cases in June, then it is because in the preceding days the lockdown did not work. That would mean there was movement of people and the disease spread. As Unlock-1.0 unfolded in June with many activities such as shops being reopened, the disease began to spread at a time when testing, tracking and isolation were not vigorously taken up," said Rao.

PRECEDENT

RS rejects MPs' demand on virtual meetings

RICHA SHARMA @ New Delhi

THE Rajya Sabha has turned down a request by MPs to allow virtual meetings for the Department Related Standing Committee — the first one post lockdown scheduled on July 10 — saying that quorum is necessary only for taking decisions and adopting reports by the committees and not for taking up a general discussion on identified issues.

Congress MP Jairam Ramesh, Chairman of the Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests, had on Tuesday written to RS Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu, saying he was doubtful if there would be quorum — the minimum number of members required to be present at a sitting of the House or a Committee for valid transaction of its business.

During a meeting with Naidu, Rajya Sabha officials pointed out that committees have been meeting without the quorum for years. Eight Department Related Standing Committees of the RS have held 281 meetings during the last three years, of which 16 per cent were without quorum.

Reacting to the decision, Ramesh said, "A silly and bogus argument. Point isn't about quorum alone. It's about facilitating those MPs who want to attend and are unable to because of the containment zone, quarantine restrictions in their home states." Meanwhile, Naidu discussed seating arrangement and participation of members in the House proceedings during the ensuing monsoon session.

Engg, medical colleges to begin session in Nov-Dec

Due to delay in entrance exams, govt to prepare a new schedule

SUMI SUKANYA DUTTA @ New Delhi

THE Covid-19 pandemic is set to push the new session of engineering and medical colleges to November while the session for first-year students in the Indian Institutes of Technology and the National Institutes of Technology could start only by December.

Government officials told this newspaper that due to the unprecedented delay in entrance examinations, the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is set to prepare a new schedule for admission to MBBS and BDS courses in medical colleges across the country.

At the same time, universities in states including IITs and the AICTE are also preparing afresh for the batches of students enrolling in the first year.

As per the new schedule, the National Testing Agency under the Union HRD Ministry will conduct the JEE Main from September 1 to 6 and the results will be released by September 10 or 11. After this, the process of counselling for admission to BTech programme and seat allotment in engineering colleges across the country will start.

"Online seat allocation is being planned to start from mid-September to October. For vacant seats, spot rounds of seat allocation will be held in November," said an NTA official.

The NEET for entrance to medical colleges, also organised by the NTA, on the other hand has been rescheduled for September 13. "The results for this test may take 15 to 20 days or even more to be released so we are expecting the online seat allocation to begin only after mid-October," explained a health ministry official in the medical education section adding that this would mean that classes in medical colleges could start only by November.

Meanwhile officials in the IITs said that there would be 5 rounds of counselling in these institutes this year, instead of usual 7.

JEE Advanced, the admission test for IITs and NITs has been scheduled for September 27. "The results are likely to be ready by the first week of October. After this, counselling will commence but given the disruption we are planning to complete the admission process in five rounds only this year," said a senior IIT official. "This will allow us to begin the session for new students at the earliest."

To make up for the lost time in the new session, IITs are looking to convert Saturdays into working days and also cut down summer and winter holidays in 2021.

Online seat allocation (for JEE Main) is being planned to start from mid-September to October. For vacant seats, spot rounds of seat allocation will be held in November
NTA official

Govt decision on trusts sparks Cong-BJP war

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Congress and BJP were caught in a fresh exchange of heated words after the government on Wednesday announced an inter-ministerial panel to coordinate investigations into allegations against Rajiv Gandhi Foundation (RGF), Rajiv Gandhi Charitable Trust and Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust.

The Congress said the party would not be intimidated by the cowardly acts and blind witch-hunt by a panicked Modi government facing a barrage of questions on Chinese intrusion, Covid-19 mishandling and economic crisis.

The PM believes the world is like him and he thinks everyone has a price or can be intimidated, said Rahul Gandhi. "He will never understand that those who fight for the truth have no price and cannot be intimidated."

Mr Modi believes the world is like him. He thinks every one has a price or can be intimidated. He will never understand that those who fight for the truth have no price and cannot be intimidated
Rahul Gandhi

The Congress trusts have been charged with violating provisions of the money laundering, income tax and foreign contribution Acts.

"The humanitarian work and distinguished service provided by these charitable organizations have always stood out and will withstand any vengeful and roving inquiry," said party media in-charge Randeep Surjewala.

The BJP hit back at Rahul Gandhi with party's national general secretary P Murlidhar Rao saying that he has been rejected by the people a number of times. "If we accept his arguments, we will also be rejected."

He rejected the Rahul's claims that the MSME sector has been badly hit in the recent months. The sector has been extended credit worth ₹1.10 lakh crore under the ₹20 lakh crore financial relief package announced by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Rao said.

"We have shown the BJP has better pro-poor track record," he said, adding 20 states/UTs have adopted 'one nation, one ration card'. He also lauded the Pradhan Mantri Garib Anna Yojna, which in eight months will cost over ₹1.49 lakh crore, while providing 5 kg of foodgrain to each person, besides one kg of gram per family each month.

Rao also said the government is tracking the works done under the NREGS for which an additional ₹40,000 crore has been provided under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojna.

UNDER THE LENS

A primer on the three organisations associated with the Nehru-Gandhi family that are going to be probed by the government for alleged violations:

Organisation	Rajiv Gandhi Foundation	Rajiv Gandhi Charitable Trust	Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust
Year of formation	1991	2002	2001
Chairperson	Sonia Gandhi	Sonia Gandhi	KM Pareeth, a Kerala based leader and businessman is the Trust's president
Trustees	Manmohan Singh, Rahul Gandhi, P Chidambaram, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Suman Dubey (ex-journalist) and Ashok Ganguly (business executive)	Rahul Gandhi, Ashok Ganguly and Bansi Mehta (chartered accountant)	Key members of the trust are K P Shiyas (General Secretary), K P Siyad (CEO) and K P Shibu (MD)
Purpose	From 1991 to 2009, it worked on a number of issues, including health, literacy, science & technology, women's and children's developmentetc. In 2010, it decided to focus on education going forward	It focuses on women empowerment and affordable eye care. For women, it has launched Rajiv Gandhi Mahila Vikas Pariyojana to train women in livelihood activities	Seeks to provide education. It commenced by venturing into educational field and over the years, went on to establish a variety of multi-disciplinary institutions

Rahul Gandhi has been rejected by the people number of times. If we accept his arguments, we will also be rejected... We have shown that the BJP has better pro-poor track record
P Murlidhar Rao, BJP national general secretary

AIIMS experts to guide ICU doctors in states

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

STARTING Wednesday, senior critical care specialists from AIIMS-Delhi will start guiding intensive care unit doctors manning Covid-19 hospitals in states on managing severely ill patients. This arrangement is aimed at reducing case fatality rate, said the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Of 7,42,417 confirmed cases in India so far, 20,642 have succumbed to the infection. This means 2.8 per cent of the infected have died.

The government said a specialist team of doctors from AIIMS will provide guidance on effective clinical management of Covid-19 patients in the ICUs of different state hospitals through tele or video consultation. "They will handhold the states in clinical management of Covid-19 patients to reduce the case fatality rate," said the ministry in a statement.

These tele-consultation sessions have been planned twice every week, on Tuesday and Friday. For the Wednesday session, 10 hospitals have been selected — nine from Mumbai and one from Goa. These hospitals have more than 1,000 beds for Covid patients including isolation beds, oxygen supported and ICU beds.

This exercise has also been planned to be extended to another 61 hospitals which have bed capacity ranging from 500-1,000 twice a week.

A calendar of these sessions has been drawn up to cover 17 states till the month-end. These 17 states are: Delhi, Gujarat, Telangana, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Bihar, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Jharkhand and Maharashtra. Up to two doctors handling ICU patients from each hospital along with the Director General of Health Services of the State will participate in the session.

EXPRESS READ

BMS to protest over anti-labour policies

NEW DELHI: The Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh will launch a week long campaign, Sarkar Jagao Saptah, to protest non-payment of wages, anti-labour policies and issues concerning the unorganised sector. "The BMS in its meeting on Tuesday decided to observe nationwide campaign from July 24-30 on problems of the workforce at the national, state, industry and local level. Sector wise demonstrations will be held in state capitals, district headquarters, at block levels and all the big industrial estates," said BMS general secretary Virjesh Upadhyay.

VULGAR COMMENT

Four men were booked by the Indore police for making vulgar comments over social media against a woman, who asked discomforting questions to water resources minister Tulsiram Silawat at a public programme recently

1 WOMAN WAS KILLED IN PAK FIRING AT LoC

Ahmedabad	36	26	Mumbai	31	26
Bhopal	33	23	Panaji	30	25
Jaipur	35	25	Patna	33	28
Amritsar	33	25	Lucknow	35	27
Chennai	37	27	Port Blair	30	24
Kolkata	33	28	Imphal	30	23
Srinagar	31	16	Chandigarh	33	25

Two cops held for helping Kanpur gangster

Dubey's associate gunned down; DIG STF transferred to PAC Mordabad; entire staff of Chaubeypur PS removed

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

THE Uttar Pradesh Police on Wednesday arrested suspended former Chaubeypur Station Officer Vinay Tiwari along with his beat in-charge Sub-Inspector KK Sharma in connection with the Kanpur encounter.

Also, on Wednesday, the entire staff, comprising 69 police personnel, deployed at Chaubeypur police station, were removed late Tuesday night. All of them were sent to police lines. SSP Kanpur, Dinesh Kumar P said, "Strict action will be taken against those who are found guilty."

Tiwari and Sharma had reportedly fled when a police team came under heavy fire from Dubey's men in Bikru village under Chaubeypur police station last week, said Kanpur IG Mohit Agarwal.

The UP STF, probing the Kanpur encounter case, claimed enough evidence against the police personnel who had also allegedly tipped Dubey about the imminent police operation against him in an attempt-to-murder case.

The STF on Wednesday gunned down a close associate and relative of the don, Amar Dubey, in Hamirpur district. He was among 21 wanted criminals named in the FIR in the Kanpur encounter in which 8 policemen were martyred. "He was a co-accused in the Kanpur incident," said UP Additional Director General of Police, Law and Order, Prashant Kumar.

Kumar said a semi-automatic weapon and a bag were recovered from Amar's possession.

The police said Amar was killed a few hours after gangster Vikas Dubey gave them the slip when they raided a hotel in Haryana's Faridabad on Tuesday night.

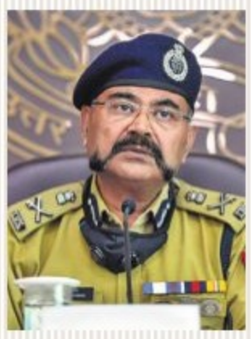
Three suspects —Ankit, his father Shravan and Prabhat — all known to be Dubey's accomplices, were picked up from Faridabad. Sources said Dubey had used Ankit's I-card to book the room in the guest house.

In another development, the STF picked up the don's brother-in-law Gyanendra Nigam and his son Adarsh from Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh. Meanwhile, following emergence of a confidential letter written by martyred CO Devendra Mishra, Deputy Inspector General, Special Task Force, Anant Deo Tiwari, was transferred to PAC Moradabad.

(Top) Three aides of Vikas Dubey after arrest in Faridabad; (Above) Police personnel pump out water from a well at the residence of the gangster in Kanpur on suspicion of arms and ammunition being hidden there, on Wednesday | PTI

Haryana Police on alert as Dubey gives a slip at Faridabad hospital

The Haryana Police is on the alert as gangster Vikas Dubey was spotted at Faridabad in Haryana. All hotels in National Capital Region (NCR) are put on alert. Police sources said that Dubey was reportedly seen at a small budget hotel in the Badhkal Chowk area of Faridabad, which is adjoining Delhi, on Tuesday evening. But he managed to escape but his three associates were arrested by the police. The police commissionerates of Faridabad and Gurugram are also on a high alert.



Acting on a tip-off, a team of the Uttar Pradesh Special Task Force and local police surrounded Amar. He was injured in the firing and he died during treatment at a hospital

Prashant Kumar, ADG (Law and order)

PLA created standoff in Middle Sector in June

MAYANK SINGH @New Delhi

WHILE the Chinese unilaterally changed the status quo in the western sector in eastern Ladakh, they increased their presence in the middle sector along Uttarakhand soon after its soldiers clashed with the Indian Army in Ladakh in May first week. They raised flags multiple times on different occasions and also caused a standoff on June 5.

On June 5, a Chinese patrolling party appeared with a large red colour banner asking the Indian side to dismantle its infrastructure and leave the place even when Indian jawans were on their side. The banner held by four soldiers had message printed over it: "Please dismantle infrastructure and go back to maintain peace and stability of border areas."

The Chinese have been objecting to a hut prepared for Indian Kailash-Mansarovar pilgrims to safeguard them from extreme cold, rain and assist them in case of any medical help

Govt source

They approached the Indian patrolling team and asked them to leave the place.

The Chinese have been objecting to a hut prepared for Indian Kailash-Mansarovar pilgrims to safeguard them from extreme cold, rain and assist them in case of any medical help, said a source. "But it was never so frequent", he said.

The Chinese activities in the Lipulekh area increased since the standoff and mobilization of Indian forces in eastern Ladakh.

Nepal objected to an Indian road for the Mansarovar pilgrims leading close to Lipulekh Pass.

Nepal's reaction was seen as a third party prodding. Army Chief General MM Naravane on May 15 had said that Nepal's objection was at someone else's behest.

Nepal President Bidya Devi Bhandari approved a new political map of the country featuring Lipulekh, Kalapani and Limpiyadhura areas, which India maintains belong to it.

MEA spokesperson Anurag Srivastava had clarified immediately and had termed the "artificial enlargement of territorial claims" as unacceptable to India.

But the June 5 incident was a tipping point as the Chinese patrolling parties had been provoking Indian soldiers continuously throughout May.

The standoff situation caused by the Chinese on June 5 was handled convincingly by the ITBP's Indian patrolling party. The situation was finally defused and both sides returned to their camps.

MVA ALLIES

Sena, NCP agree on no poaching rule

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

MAHARASHTRA Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray met his deputy Ajit Pawar and decided to bury the difference arising out of the Shiv Sena councillors joining the NCP recently.

All these five councillors went to Matoshree, the residence of the Thackerays, and returned to their parent party.

Prior to this meeting, NCP boss Sharad Pawar had met Uddhav to ensure that the five Sena councilors are sent back to their party. Before that Shiv Sena secretary Milind Narvekar had called Ajit to request him not to poach each other members as long as they are in government and part of the Maha Vikas Aghadi.

This development is being construed as a victory of Narvekar who egged Uddhav to stand ground and protect the interest of the party first and then the government.

Sources said Pawar convinced his nephew to eat humble pie for the larger interest of the government. "These small things should be avoided if you want to survive this government for a longer time," he was quoted as saying by a source.

Uddhav had conveyed Pawar that as long as they are in government, there should not be backstabbing. "The NCP boss, who is the MVA architect, agreed and forced his nephew to return the Sena councillors at any cost," said an NCP source.

Cabinet okays rental housing complexes for migrants

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Union Cabinet on Wednesday cleared affordable rental housing complexes for migrant workers. The sub-scheme, part of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, aims to extend rental housing to three lakh migrant workers.

The Cabinet approved providing over one lakh houses built under the PMAY to migrant workers on rent with the aim to facilitate stay of such people near their workplaces.

Briefing reporters, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar said municipal corporations and local bodies will fix rentals to be paid by the workers. The Centre will release ₹600 crore in the form of 'Technology Innovation Grant' for projects, which would adopt identified innovative technologies for construction.

"The Union Cabinet has given its approval for developing Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (AHRCs) for urban migrants and poor as a subscheme under PMAY-Urban. The existing vacant government-funded housing complexes will be converted into ARHCs through concession agreements for 25 years," the government said.

The Cabinet proposal mandates that the concessionaire would make the complexes livable by repair/retrofit and maintenance of rooms and filling up infrastructure gaps such as water, sewer and other amenities. States and UTs will select concessionaire through transparent bidding, said the government statement.

The Cabinet also allowed financial incentives to private builders to develop such rental housing complexes, with benefits including additional 50 per cent Floor Area Ratio, tax relief and priority sector lending. Such housing complexes will provide rental facilities to the migrant workers for 25 years.

The government hopes the scheme will encourage better living conditions for migrant workers along with their absorption in the organised sector via mapping of their skills.

GLOBAL TIMES

'Modi's foreign policy is vain, unsustainable'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

RECALLING how the Chinese side had 'hit India hard', the Chinese government mouthpiece said, "The Jawaharlal Nehru administration implemented the reckless Forward Policy at the China-India border area and its adventurism was hit hard by the Chinese side."

It also hit out at the Indira Doctrine saying it led to India's interference in neighbouring countries' internal affairs and that PM Modi's foreign policy is unsustainable and vain.

The moving back of the troops started after the talk between Ajit Doval, NSA and Wang Yi, Foreign Minister and State Councillor of China on Sunday. The disengagement process has taken place as per the understanding arrived between Lt Gen Harinder Singh and Major Gen Lin Liu in the three meetings held till now.

Misconduct: Centre suspends IPS officer who had run-ins with J&K police chief

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

FORMER IG, Traffic, Basant Rath, who was involved in "one-sided Twitter war" with J&K police chief Dilbagh Singh, was on Wednesday suspended by the Union Home Ministry for gross misconduct and misbehaviour.

Under Secretary to the Government of India, SD Sarkar in an order ordered immediate suspension of the 2000 batch IPS officer from J&K cadre. "A disciplinary proceeding against Rath is contemplated in connection with repeated instances of gross misconduct and misbehaviour, which have been brought to the notice of the government. The Competent Authority in the Ministry of Home Affairs, in exercise of powers conferred by clauses of sub-rule of Rule of the All India Services (Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 1969, hereby places Rath under suspension with immediate effect," the order stated.

Rath, who hails from Odisha, was directed not to leave the Jammu headquarters without obtaining the prior permission of Singh. After the order, Rath tweeted, "*Apna tou Kaam Hai Jalaate Rahe Chiraag. Rastey Mai Chaha Dost ya Dilloo* (apparently referring to DGP Dilbagh Singh) *ka ghar milay.*"

Apna tou Kaam Hai Jalaate Rahe Chiraag. Rastey Mai Chahiye Dost ya Dilloo (apparently referring to DGP Dilbagh Singh) ka ghar milay

Basant Rathi, J&K IPS officer

"Ishq for Dilloo and his bosses - 24 carat. Ishq for Dilloo's business partners - 23.18 carat. Ishq for Dilloo's political mentors - 22.37 carat. Ishq for Dilloo's daaru suppliers - 21.52 carat. Ishq for Dilloo's Kashmir Firstpost Whatsapp stenographer friends (referring to whtsap group) - 20.24 carat (sic)," he tweeted.

In November 2018, Rath was shifted to Home Guards and Civil Defence department after a spat on Twitter with then Srinagar Mayor Junaid Mattu, who was then close to the BJP. Mattu has later removed as Srinagar Mayor after corporators, backed by BJP, passed no confidence motion against him.

Rath had on June 12 indirectly accused the DGP of owning 50 kanals of land in Jammu. "Hi, Dilbag Singh. Can I call you Dilloo? Are you the one who owns 50 canals of land in Sarore near the dental college? Is it registered on your name?" Rath had posted in response to a tweet.

On June 24, Rath had lodged a written complaint against Singh alleging threat to his life and stating that in case untoward happens to him, the DGP should be held responsible.

With inputs from Delhi

Jadhav coerced to reject review petition, says India

PUSHKAR BANAKAR AND KANU SARDA @New Delhi

INDIA on Wednesday hit out at Pakistan for its reluctance to implement the ICJ judgment in letter and spirit.

The comments from External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Anurag Srivastava came after the Pakistan government said former Indian Navy officer Kulbhushan Jadhav has "refused" to file a review plea for his death sentence and granted a second consular access to him.

"We have been pursuing through diplomatic channels full and effective implementation of the ICJ judgment in the case of Jadhav. The media statement made by Pakistan today in the case seeks to mask its continuing reticence to implement ICJ judgment in letter and spirit," Srivastava said.

Terming Pakistan's statement a continuation of the farce that has been in play for four years, the MEA spokesperson said, "Pakistan has obviously coerced Jadhav to forego his rights to seek an implementation of the judgment of the ICJ."

Jadhav, who is currently on death row, was arrested in March 2016 on charges of espionage in Balochistan. He was later sentenced to death by a Pakistan military court. Last July, the ICJ ordered Pakistan to provide consular access to Jadhav, stay his execution and review his death sentence after India moved the court.

Srivastava said that Pakistan continued to deny free access to Jadhav and repeated requests for a lawyer from outside. "Since 2017, when a military court carried out a farcical trial, Pakistan has refused to hand over any relevant document, including FIR, evidence, court order, etc in the case to India. Clearly, Pakistan is attempting to create a mirage of compliance with the ICJ judgment."

Earlier in the day, Pakistan Additional Attorney General Irfan Ahmed said a second consular access was granted to Jadhav. He added Pakistan enacted the ICJ Review and Reconsideration Ordinance, 2020 in May, but Jadhav refused.

EXPRESS READ

Uttarakhand town to get Visva Bharati campus

Dehradun: Ramgarh, where Rabindranath Tagore resided in early 1900s and composed parts of his magnum opus 'Gitanjali', will get a campus of Visva Bharati University, said Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'. "Approval has been granted by the university last month. It is a proud moment for Uttarakhand and Kumaon," he said.

Priyanka's shadow over IAS reshuffle?

In a major reshuffle, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot oversaw a complete revamp of the Rajasthan bureaucracy after 18 months of his rule. The biggest change was the surprise choice of Rajeev Swarup as the new Chief Secretary replacing DB Gupta, who still had three months to retire. Though Gupta was appointed as an advisor to the Chief Minister, his removal from the top post is a topic of discussion in Jaipur's power corridors. The CM's blessings on Swarup, a resident of Lucknow, are being linked to his Uttar Pradesh connection which is now the area where Priyanka Gandhi operates.

JAIPUR DIARY

RAJESH ASNANI
Our correspondent in Jaipur
rajesh.asnani@newindianexpress.com

Housing Board to create choupatis for foodies

It may have been quite inactive for years but now the Rajasthan Housing Board is gathering momentum even during the Corona crisis. Much of the credit goes to its Commissioner Pawan Arora, who has in recent months made the Housing Board a centre of activity. In a novel effort, the Rajasthan Housing Board will now build 66 'Chowpatties' in Mansarovar, Pratap Nagar and Nayla areas of Jaipur which will serve Rajasthani, South Indian, Sindhi and Jain food. To ensure good quality of food and effective management, the Board has invited bids from experienced vendors. In the Pratap Nagar Chowpatti, a food street will be created wherein a one km stretch will be developed replete with a jogging track, sitting benches and decorative plants. Platforms will also be made for performing artistes.

Confusion over exam for students

Given the pandemic, the Gehlot government had cancelled all university and college exams in the state last week. This included all the UG and PG courses in universities, colleges, and technical educational institutions. However, on Monday, the UGC received clearance from the MHA to mandatorily conduct final-year college and university exams. The UGC has now asked officials of all universities to hold exams for final year students though they can choose to hold the tests online, if feasible. In Rajasthan, the government will now rework its plans, a senior official said.

Astrologers predict good monsoon

On the eve of Ashad Purnima, astrologers gather every year at Jaipur's Jantar Mantar to predict pattern of monsoon. After observing the direction and intensity of winds at a particular time, rainfall is predicted in a 100 km circumference by blowing a flag on the peak of 'Samrat Yantra'. This unique way to predict rains in the Pink City has been used since erstwhile royal times for over 200 years now. Last Saturday, astrologers went through the annual tradition and have assessed that rains will be quite heavy and beneficial. Leading astrologer Vinod Shastri remarked that "on a study of the winds, our estimate is very good rains that will herald better times."

259 people
have been killed and 3,500 arrested in more than a week of unrest in Ethiopia

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	31	21	HR	Los Angeles	24	15	LC
Colombo	31	25	TDS	Melbourne	14	6	LC
Doha	37	29	SNY	Moscow	25	18	HR
Dubai	41	31	SNY	New York	31	23	LC
Houston	36	23	SNY	Singapore	31	26	TDS
Istanbul	31	21	SNY	Toronto	33	21	SNY
London	21	13	LR	Washington DC	33	22	LC

US, China lock horns over Tibet with mutual sanctions

China announces visa curbs on US officials hours after Trump slapped similar measures on Chinese over lack of foreign access to Tibet

WASHINGTON

CHINA said on Wednesday it will impose visa restrictions on US individuals following the Trump administration's imposition of travel bans on Chinese officials it accuses of restricting foreigners' access to Tibet.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said the move would target "U.S. individuals with egregious conduct related to Tibet issues" but gave no specifics.

"We urge the US to stop interfering in China's internal affairs with Tibet-related issues ... so as to avoid further damage to China-US relations," Zhao told reporters at a daily news briefing.

While China encourages travel to the Himalayan region, it has adopted "certain management and protection measures for foreigners visiting Tibet in accordance with law and regulations," along with consideration for Tibet's "special geographical and climatic conditions," Zhao said.

The Trump administration announced its new travel ban on Tuesday, hitting an unspecified number of Chinese officials with visa restrictions, limiting or entirely eliminating their ability to travel to the United States.

In announcing the restrictions, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo accused China of systematically obstructing the travel of foreign diplomats, journalists and tourists to Tibet while Chinese visitors "enjoy far greater access to the United States."

"Access to Tibetan areas is increasingly vital to regional stability, given (China's) human rights abuses there, as well as Beijing's failure to prevent environmental degradation near the headwaters of Asia's major rivers," Pompeo said.

The statement did not name any of those targeted nor did it give a number of those affected but said it the ban would be applied to Chinese government and Communist Party officials who are found to be "substantially involved in the formulation or execution of policies related to access for foreigners to Tibetan areas."

China requires special permits for foreigners to visit Tibet, where human rights activists say Beijing has engaged in a decades-long campaign to suppress local culture, the Buddhist religion and minorities.

The latest US move comes as it wages concurrent battles over Beijing's policies in Hong Kong.

China has preferences in US polls: FBI chief

The head of the FBI said Tuesday that China is pushing its preferences in the US election as part of broad intelligence operations, whose economic impact he called unprecedented. Christopher Wray, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, did not say whether China backed either President Donald Trump or his presumptive Democratic rival Joe Biden, both of whom have harshly criticized Beijing. "China's malign foreign influence campaign targets our policies, our positions, 24/7, 365 days a year," Wray said. "So it's not an election-specific threat; it's really more of an all-year, all-the-time threat".

China opens secret police's HQ in Hong Kong

China opened a new office on Wednesday for its intelligence agents to operate openly in Hong Kong for the first time under a tough new security law. The new base is located in a rapidly converted hotel overlooking the city's Victoria Park, a location that has hosted pro-democracy protests for years, including an annual vigil marking Beijing's deadly Tiananmen crackdown. A Chinese flag was unfurled on a pole erected outside the building while a plaque with the national emblem went up overnight

OPEN LETTER

Rushdie, Rowling warn against rising intolerance

LONDON

ACCLAIMED authors such as Salman Rushdie, J K Rowling and Margaret Atwood are among around 150 writers, artists and activists to sign an open letter, warning against the rise of "forces of illiberalism" impacting free speech.

The group, which also includes American activist Naom Chomsky and Indian historian Meera Nanda, warns that the spread of 'censoriousness' is leading to 'an intolerance of opposing views' and 'a vogue for public shaming and ostracism'.

The open letter, published in Tuesday's *Harper's Magazine*, acknowledges the Black Lives Matter movement and other powerful protests for racial and social justice.

"But this needed reckoning has also intensified a new set of moral attitudes and political commitments that tend to weaken our norms of open debate and toleration of differences in favour of ideological conformity," it notes.

"As we applaud the first development, we also raise our voices against the second. The forces of illiberalism are gaining strength throughout the world and have an ally in Trump, who represents a threat to democracy," it reads. *PTI*

EXPRESS READ

WITH EYE ON THE YOUTH, UK UNVEILS £30 BILLION PACKAGE

London: THE UK government on Wednesday committed £30 billion to saving jobs and helping the young find work in an economy ravaged by the coronavirus pandemic. "People need to know that although hardship lies ahead, no one will be left without hope," Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak said. The budget pledges £1,000 for firms to take on trainees, and £2 billion to subsidise placements for 16 to 24-year-olds from lower income families. The latest package includes £2 billion in grants for households to insulate homes and £1 billion for public sector buildings. **AFP**

Trump shaped by bullying father, writes his niece

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump's niece offers a scathing portrayal of her uncle in a new book, blaming a toxic family for raising a narcissistic, damaged man who poses an immediate danger to the public, according to a copy obtained by The Associated Press.

Mary L Trump , a psychologist, writes that Trump's reelection would be catastrophic and that "lying, playing to the lowest common denominator, cheating, and sowing division are all he knows".

The 240-page book says Trump is a product of his "sociopath" father Fred Trump who created an abusive and traumatic home life, *The Washington Post* reported.

The memoir is billed as the first unflattering portrayal of Trump by a family insider.

In the book, Mary who is estranged from her uncle, makes several revelations, including alleging that the president paid a friend to take the SATs — a standardized test widely used for college admissions — in his place. She writes that his sister Maryanne Trump did his homework for him but couldn't take his tests and he worried his grade point average, which put him far from the top of the class, would "scuttle his efforts to get accepted" into the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, where he transferred after two years at Fordham University in the Bronx.

"To hedge his bets he enlisted Joe Shapiro, a smart kid with a reputation for being a good test taker, to take his SATs for him," she writes, adding, "Donald, who never lacked for funds, paid his buddy well." White House spokesperson Sarah Matthews called the allegation "completely false."

Mary L Trump

Mary Trump also writes, in awe, of Trump's ability to gain the support of prominent Christian leaders and white evangelicals, saying: "The only time Donald went to church was when the cameras were there. It's mind boggling. He has no principles. None!" She paints Trump, who often called her "Honeybunch," as a self-centered narcissist who demanded constant adulation — even from his family — and had little regard for family members' feelings. Trump's crude rhetoric on the campaign trail, she said, was nothing new, reminding her "of every family meal I'd ever attended during which Donald had talked about all of the women he considered ugly fat slobs or the men, usually more accomplished or powerful, he called losers."

The president's younger brother Robert Trump tried to block publication, arguing that Mary was violating a non-disclosure agreement signed in 2001 after the settlement of her grandfather's estate.

Last week, a New York appeals judge ruled that Simon & Schuster is allowed to release the memoir, saying it was "not a party to the agreement."

Mary is the daughter of Fred Trump Jr, Trump's older brother. *Agencies*

FAKE NEWS SITES MAKE MILLIONS FROM GOOGLE

WASHINGTON

TECH giants including Google and Amazon will funnel at least $25 million in ad money to websites spreading misinformation about Covid-19 this year, a study has claimed.

According to the Global Disinformation Index (GDI), which conducted the study, Google's platforms will provide $19 million to websites including *americanthinker.com*.

The GDI analysed ads running between January and June on 480 English language websites identified as publishers of virus misinformation. Most of these ads are placed by either Google or Amazon.

FB's decisions undermining civil rights, says report

Facebook has made a series of decisions that undermined civil rights, including allowing posts from President Donald Trump that violate the values of the leading social network, an independent audit report said on Wednesday.

The audit commissioned by Facebook in 2018 found the California giant had taken "important steps forward in building a long-term civil rights accountability structure" but "are not sufficient and should not be the end of Facebook's progress."

The auditors expressed alarm at Facebook's reluctance to take action on Trump's posts which "allowed the propagation of hate speech". Facebook's inaction "seems to reflect a statement of values that protecting free expression is more important than other stated company values." Sheryl Sandberg, Facebook's COO, said in a Facebook newsroom post that the company has a long way to go, but is making progress. *Agencies*

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that our client Mr. K.L. Mubaraj, is intending to purchase the schedule mentioned property from its owner Mr. A.P. Moosa. If anybody having any claim or objection over the below schedule property, we call upon to approach the undersigned along with relevant proof of claim within 15 days from the date of this public Notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing House List No.2122/1601, measuring East to West 20 feet and North to South 62 feet and eastern portion of House List No. 1607/1606, measuring East to West 19 feet, North to South 62 feet, PID No.95-261-86, situated at Kadugondahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, (Total 2418 square feet) and bounded on the:-

East by : Site No.8 belongs to Abbas, West by : Property allotted to V. Kunhi Ahmed Hajee & A.P. Ramala, North by : Road, South by : Private Property.

Ayaz Ahmed, Advocate
2, 1st Floor, H. Ayesha Masjid Complex, (Near Yaseen Nagar Railway Gate), Subash Nagar, HBR Layout, Bengaluru - 560 043.
Mobile: +91 94484 12226

PUBLIC NOTICE

Mr. C. YUVARAJ, S/o. late G. Chandran Naidu as absolute owner of the Immovable Property bearing **Site No.42**, BBMP Katha No.347/5/42, situated at **Lottegollahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore,** measuring East to West 30 Feet and North to South 40 Feet, in all measuring 1200 Sq.Ft., together with building constructed thereon and bounded on **East by:** Site No.17, **West by:** Site No.45, **North by:** Site No.43 and **South by:** Road, offered this property as security to the loan to be availed by him from my client Union Bank of India (Erstwhile Andhra Bank) and intending to deposit the Original Title Deeds and other documents. Hence, it is informed to the general public that, if any person or entities are having any claim or objections in creating any charge on this property in favour of my client Union Bank of India (Erstwhile Andhra Bank),such Objections or claims may be lodged with the undersigned within 7 **(Seven) days** from the date of this Notice. If any claim or objections are not received within the said period, my client Bank is accepting the Schedule Property as security to the loan amount.

(M. MOHAN RAO) Advocate
No.14, Sirur Park Road,Seshadripuram, Bangalore-560 020. Ph:080-23462728
Place:Bengaluru Dt:08.07.2020

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **THIPPE SWAMY D.C.** alias **THIPPESWAMY D.C,** S/o Chandrappa G.D, R/@ No. SF-1, 2nd Floor, Quality Sadan, Talacaveri Layout, Amruthahalli Main Road, Bengaluru-560092, have changed my name from **THIPPE SWAMY D.C.** alias **THIPPESWAMY D.C.** to **LIKHITH D.C,** vide affidavit dated: 06/07/2020, sworn to before Notary Public, G.P. CHAYA, Bengaluru. Henceforth I shall be called as **LIKHITH D.C,** for all future purpose

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **BRINDA D.C.**, resident of No. BO.91, near Gayathri Hospital Pvt. Ltd., Magadi Chord Road, Vijayanagar, Bangalore - 560 040, have changed my name from **DAKSAYANAMMA D.C.** to **BRINDA D.C.** Vide affidavit dated 08-07-2020 sworn before Advocate & Notary K.C. Shashikala, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **K. MAHESH KADAM,** S/o Mahesh Kadam Ektha, age 49 years, R/at No. 2616, Ganesh Nilaya, 3rd Cross, 18th Main, HAL II Stage, Bangalore-560 008 do hereby declare that I have changed my daughter's name from **M. EKTHA** to **M. EKTHA KADAM,** hereafter she shall be known and called as **M. EKTHA KADAM** only for all practical purposes, vide affidavit dated 7th July 2020, sworn before Advocate and Notary **D. GUNA SHEKAR** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ANNAMMA w/o V.T. Varghese (No. 11034233, rank: HAV. Group B of Punjab regt.) r/a No. 104, 3rd Main Rd, 3rd block, 3rd Stage, Basaveshwar Nagar, Bangalore -79 have changed my name to **ANNAMMA PARAMUTTATHU MAMMEN** and DOB from 05.05.1941 to **02.05.1936.** vide affidavit dated 07.07.2020 before Notary H S Sakalesh Aradhya, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **LIPI KHANOM,** W/o Army No. JC331615L Rank : Subedar Name Anowar Sadat Khan, presently residing at C/o Anowar Sadat Khan, Village Gorbhanga, P.O. Thanarpara, Nadia, West Bengal, India camped at Bangalore have changed my name from **LIPI MONDAL** and **SMT. LIPI MONDAL** to **LIPI KHANOM,** before notary Public **A.R. MUNEER AHMED,** dated 07.07.2020 at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, TANUSHA, D/o Smt. Ramaa N Reddy @ Rama Avinash and Avinash aged about 19 years, R/at No. 435, 14th Cross, Lakkasandra Bangalore South, Bangalore-30, I have change my name from **TANUSHA** to **TANUSHA REDDY,** vide affidavit Dated 26/06/2020 sworn before Advocate R.C.Patel, Bangalore-27. Henceforth my name will remain in all records deeds and in signature is as **TANUSHA REDDY.**

AFFIDAVIT

I, **LISSY ROBERT, W/o Late Robert Joseph Francis,** residing at No. 261, K R Nagr, Opp. Police Training Camp, Chudasandra, Bangalore-560 099 have wrongly mentioned my name as **ELIZABETH ROBERT** instead of **LISSY ROBERT**, hence declared vide affidavit dated 07.07.2020 before Notary Public Advocate **Varija C.J.**, at Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT

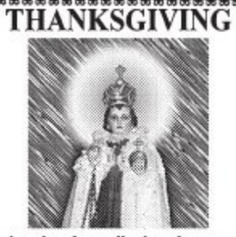
I, **SUBHASH .N.R,** S/o Rudresh Kumar .N.S, age 20 years, R/at Thimmashettappa Layout, Subhash Nagar, Nelamangala Town, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, do hereby declare that my correct name is **SUBHASH .N.R,** is reflected in School Records, Aadhar Card, Pan Card and Bank Account, but in Passport document my name is reflected as **SUBHASH,** both the names i.e. **SUBHASH .N.R** and **SUBHASH** are one and the same and belongs to me only, vide affidavit dated 8-7-2020, sworn before Advocate and Notary **Gangaraja C.B.** at Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **Meghana Raghunandan Mone,** spouse of Raghunandan Narayan Mone, age 35 years, R/at B-801, Kumar Prince Town, Shettihalli Main Road, Jalahalli West, Bengaluru-560 015 today at Pune hereby declare that both the names i.e. **Meghana Vinayak Argade** and **Meghana Raghunandan Mone** are one and the same and belongs to myself, after my marriage I have changed my name to **Meghana Raghunandan Mone** and from today onwards my name is **Meghana Raghunandan Mone** only for all practical purposes, vide affidavit dated 30th June 2020, sworn before Notary **Rameshkumar B. Nage,** at Pune.

THANKSGIVING

THANKSGIVING



Thanks for all the favours and blessings received.
NARESH, PUNIT, SHOBA

Education. Goals. And game changing decisions.
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Can Fin Homes Ltd.
CanFinHomes Ltd (Sponsor: CANARA BANK)
No.19/5 & 19/3, 1st Floor, Kareem Towers, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru - 560 052 Email : cunninghamroad@canfinhomes.com
Ph: 080 22266430 / 22262003 / 22257906/ Mob: 7625079103
CIN:L8511OKA1987PLC008699

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13 (2) of "The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (No. 54 of 2002)"

To,

1. Mr. Annayappa B N (Borrower), 2. Mrs. Manjula L (Co-Borrower) Sl. No. 1 & 2 both residing at No.38, Doddabadagere, Harohalli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagar District, Karnataka – 562112. **3. Mr. Murthy N (Guarantor)** Residing at No.317, 2nd Main, Koramangala 8th block, Bangalore – 560095.

No. 1 & 2 amongst you have availed a Site loan from our branch against the security of mortgage of the following asset belonging to No. 1 of you. An amount of **Rs 11,77,100/-** is due from you, to Can Fin Homes Ltd. as on **29.02.2020** together with future interest at the contracted rate.

Details of the mortgaged asset

All that piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing site no.20, computerized property no. 152900200 401920012 , Khaneshumari Katha no. 20/93/1A2/20, carved out of old Sy no.93/1A and New Sy no. 93/1A1 and 93/1A2, situated at Hill View, Hosakote Village, Harohalli Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District, Karnataka. Measuring East To West 30 Feet and North To South 49 Feet Totally Measuring 1470 Sq Ft. Bounded on the: East: Plot No.19, West: Plot No.21, North: Private Property, South: Road. **And**

All that piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing Site No.43, Computerized Property No. 152900200 401920020, Khaneshumari Katha No. 43/93/1A2/43, carved out of old Sy No.93/1A and New Sy No. 93/1A1 And 93/1A2, Situated At Hill View, Hosakote Village, Harohalli Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District, Karnataka. Measuring East To West 30 Feet And North To South 55 Feet Totally Measuring 1650 Sq Ft. Bounded on the: East: Plot No.44, West: Plot No.42, North: Road, South: Private Property

Registered demand notice was sent to Nos. 1 & 2 amongst you under Section 13 (2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002, but the same was returned unserved. The undersigned has, therefore, caused these Notices to be pasted on the premises of the last known addresses of the said Borrower/s as per the said Act. Hence this paper publication. As you have failed to adhere to the terms of the sanction, the account is classified as a Non Performing Asset on **29.02.2020** as per the NHB Guidelines. You are hereby called upon to pay the above said amount with contracted rate of interest thereon from **29.02.2020** within 60 days from the date of this notice, failing which the undersigned will be constrained to Initiate action under SARFAESI Act to enforce the aforesaid security. Further, the attention of borrowers / guarantors is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to them to redeem the secured assets.

Date : 08.07.2020
Place : Bangalore
Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Can Fin Homes Ltd.

QuoteExpress **IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING** › WINSTON CHURCHILL

HDFC Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited

Regd. Office: Ramon House, H T Parekh Marg, 169, Backbay Reclamation, Churchgate, Mumbai 400020.
Regional Office : HDFC Ltd, HDFC House, No -51, Kasturba Road, Bangalore -560001.
Tel: 080-41183000, CIN L70100MH1977PLC019916,
Website: www.hdfc.com, Email:customercare.bang@hdfc.com

E- AUCTION SALE NOTICE (Sale through e-bidding only)

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act,2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules,2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor(s) indicated in Column (A) that the below described immovable property(ties) described in Column (C) mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive / physical possession of which has been taken as described in column (D) by the Authorized Officer of Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited (HDFC Ltd) Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is",** and **"Whatever there is"** as per the details mentioned below :

Notice is hereby given to Borrower / Mortgagor(s) / legal heirs, legal representatives (whether known or unknown), executor(s), administrator(s), successor(s) and assign(s) of the respective Borrower(s) / Mortgagor(s)(since deceased), as the case may be, indicated in **Column (A)** under **Rule 8(6)** of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited (HDFC Ltd) Secured Creditor's website i.e. **www.HDFC.Com**

Sl. No.	(A) Name/s of Borrower(s)/ Mortgager(s)/ Guarantor(s)/	(B) Outstanding dues to be recovered (Secured Debt) (Rs.)*	(C) Description of the Immovable Property / Secured Asset (1 Sq. mtr. is equivalent to 10.76 Sq.ft) and Reserve Price	(D) Type of Possession	(E) & (F) Reserve Price (Rs.) & Earnest Money Deposit (Rs)	(G) Date of Auction and Time
1	Mr. Vineeth C Vakil (Borrower) Mrs. Kshama Rajpurohit. (Co-Borrower) Loan A/c No: 619124886, 621777836 and 619550859	Rs.41,98,694/- in Loan Account No.619124886, Rs.4,20,483/- in Loan Account No.621777836 and Rs.1,25,865/- in Loan Account No.619550859 totally accruing to Rs.47,45,042/- (Rupees Forty Seven Lakhs Forty Five Thousand Forty Two Only) due as on 30.09.2018	Residential Flat Bearing No. 103 in the First Floor, measuring 1100 sq.ft. super built up area , containing 2 bedrooms with One Covered Car Parking space , UDS of 468 sq.ft. undivided right title interest in the land of the building along with proportionate share of common areas such as passages, lobbies, lift and stair case contained in the multi storied building constructed on the land bearing Sy No. 23/10, BBMP New Khata No. 1182/Sy. No. 23/10, measuring 18 Guntas And 3 Guntas Kharab , converted from agricultural to non agricultural residential use vide official memorandum, dated 13.08.2013 , bearing No. ALN.(EVH)SR/28/13-14, issued by deputy commissioner, Bangalore district , situated at of Doddakanalli Village, Varathur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk , with all rights , appurtenances whatsoever hereunder or underneath or above the surface and property known as 'SUNNY BURBERRY'.	Physical Possession	Rs.50,58,000/- (Rupees Fifty Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Only) Rs.5,05,800/- (Rupees Five Lakh Five Thousand Eight Hundred Only)	13.08.2020 12.00 PM TO 12.30 PM

1. Inspection Date & Time: 25.07.2020 and 01.08.2020 between 11.AM TO 4.PM
2. Minimum bid increment amount: Rs.20,000/-
3. EMD Amount Submission on or before : 11.08.2020

*together with further interest @ 18% p.a. as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred up to the date of payment and / or realisation thereof.

For any assistance related to inspection of the property, or for obtaining the Bid document and for any other queries, please get in touch with Mr.Yogesh.N/Shridhar Chinni official of HDFC Limited through Tel No.080-41182283, 080-41182126/ 9449080072.

To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized Officer of HDFC Ltd, there are no encumbrances in respect of the above immovable properties / Secured Assets.

Date: 09.07.2020
Place: Bangalore
For Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd.
Sd/- Authorized Officer

TODAY'S STOCK PICK

Current Price ₹444.15

Target Price ₹560

Axis Bank: We expect loan growth to moderate on account of a weak environment, weighed by the COVID-19 outbreak, resulting in a slowdown in consumer spending. Moreover, the BB and below pool is likely to increase further, which, coupled with high share of loans under moratorium, would drive elevated slippages over FY21E. AXSB has made additional provisions of ₹30b for Covid-19.

– Motilal Oswal Securities Limited

Disclaimer: The views and recommendations made above are that of the individual analyst or broking company, and not that of **TNIE**

EXPRESS READ

FUGITIVES LAW

NIRAV MODI'S ASSETS WORTH ₹329 CR CONFISCATED BY ED

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Wednesday said it has confiscated assets worth `329.66 crore of diamond merchant Nirav Modi under the fugitive economic offenders law. This is the first confiscation of assets order issued under the law that was brought by the Modi government in 2018 with an aim to deter economic offenders from evading the process of law by remaining outside the jurisdiction of Indian courts. The businessman, his uncle Mehul Choksi and others are being probed by the ED on money laundering charges in connection with an over USD 2 billion alleged bank fraud at a PNB branch in Mumbai.

SECURITY

FINMIN ASKS STATES TO ENSURE SAFETY OF BANKERS

New Delhi: The Finance Ministry has requested states to ensure safety and security of bank officials and stern action against perpetrators following incidences of attack on bankers in some parts of the country in the recent past. The Department of Financial Services in a letter to chief secretary of states said that incidences of unruly behaviour of anti-social elements against the bankers needs to be responded with stern action taken against such elements, PTI reported, citing sources. Last month, a woman bank employee in Canara Bank (erstwhile Syndicate Bank) was attacked by a police constable at its Saroli branch.

COUNTRY TAG

DPIIT TO DISCUSS ORIGIN LABEL WITH CONSUMER MINISTRY

New Delhi: The industry department is likely to discuss with the Consumer Affairs Ministry the matter of mandating e-commerce firms to mention the 'country of origin' on each product sold through their platforms, PTI reported. The issue was discussed in a meeting on Wednesday called by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and representatives of e-commerce companies, including Amazon, Flipkart, Snapdeal, Tata Cliq and Grofers. PTI sources said the matter involves certain changes related to packaging of the product "the DPIIT would discuss the issue with the consumer affairs ministry".

MARKET WATCH

MARKET
345.51 ▼ Sensex 36,329.01 | 93.90 ▼ Nifty 10,705.75

GOLD
₹9 ▼ 24 carat (1 gm) ₹5,062 | ₹31 ▼ 22 carat (1 gm) ₹4,641

SILVER
₹400 ▼ Per kg ₹49,200 | ₹0.40 ▼ Per gm ₹49.20

FOREX
▼ Dollar 75.02 ▼ Euro 84.61

Cabinet nod for extension of welfare schemes

Central support for Provident Fund, free LPG cylinders and rations to last longer

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

GIVEN the Covid-19 pandemic, the Union Cabinet has decided to continue with its welfare schemes for some more time, including those like the Provident Fund support extended to employees for another three months, free rations for the next five months and free LPG cylinder refills upto September.

"The Cabinet has approved the extension of the scheme where Government pays the contributions of employees and employers till August," Union Minister Prakash Javadekar told reporters after the Cabinet meeting.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced in May that the Centre would extend the schemes under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana by three months, giving relief to 3.67 lakh employers and 72.22 lakh employees.

The PF contribution comes up to 24 per cent—12 per cent of the employees' share and 12 per cent share of employers'.

The scheme will cover all the establishments witj up to 100 employees, and 90 per cent of such employees earn less than ₹15,000 monthly wages. However, it will exclude beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY).

The Cabinet also approved the extension of the distribution of free of cost whole chana for five months from July to November, under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY). Under the scheme, it is proposed to distribute 9.7 Lakh MT of cleaned whole chana to States/UTs for distribution to all beneficiary households for the next five months. This scheme has a total estimated cost of ₹6,849.24 crore and will cover 19.4 crore households.

> **The Cabinet has approved the extension of the scheme where Government pays the contributions of employees and employers till August**
>
> Prakash Javadekar, Union Minister

The Cabinet also extended the timeline of the Ujwwala scheme, allowing beneficiaries to avail free LPG cylinder refills till September 30.

Meanwhile, it also approved the capital infusion of ₹12,450 crore in three public sector general insurance companies—Oriental Insurance Company, National Insurance Company and United India Insurance Company. However it has put the proposed merger of these firms on hold due to corona pandemic.The total capital support will include ₹2,500 crore infused in FY2019-20. Another ₹3,475 crore will be released immediately; while the balance ₹6,475 crore will be infused later.

RBI policy rates have hit their lowest in 58 years

SUNITHA NATTI @ Hyderabad

THE RBI's official policy rate has touched a 58-year-low, shows a *TNIE* analysis.

In an out-of-turn meeting in May, the central bank's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) slashed rates by 40 basis points (bps) taking the repo rate to four per cent. If the MPC, which may convene this month, decides to cut rates further, policy rates will touch levels last seen in 1957 when RBI's official rate stood at 3.5 per cent.

The MPC is mandated to meet once every two months and its next meeting is scheduled for August. But given the emergency MPC meeting held on May 20-22, the next bi-monthly meeting must be scheduled in a fortnight depending on the availability of MPC members.

Lower rates encourage consumers to borrow, spur spending, revive bank credit growth—all of which will goose the economy. Repo was designated as the key policy rate only in April, 2001. Prior to that, the bank rate (now at 4.5 per cent) acted as RBI's official rate, a position it had held since January, 1946. While bank and repo rate are separate policy tools, a comparison drawn only in the context of the official policy rate shows that the central bank's policy rate of 4 per cent was last seen 58 years ago ie., in December, 1962.

CUT AFTER CUT

40 bps was the repo rate cut made on May 22

4% is the current repo rate, a historic low

Though both bank and repo are rates at which RBI lends money to commercial banks, the former involves no collateral, while the latter takes securities, bonds as collateral. Bank rate is usually higher and the duration lasts more than a month, while repo is an overnight rate. Importantly, bank rate influences interest rates of banks that in turn effects end consumers, whereas repo rate controls inflation, influencing liquidity flow in the system.

While there's no official word, several analysts including MPC's external member Chetan Ghate believe the reverse repo rate (rate at which banks park funds with RBI; currently 3.35 per cent) is now the effective policy rate. If so, policy rates have touched 63-year-low and are inching closer to 1946 levels when bank rate stood at 3 per cent. Interestingly, reverse repo is changed by RBI unilaterally without going through MPC, which is what RBI did in April cutting rates and prompting banks to lend.

According to a recent SBI Ecowrap report, RBI has adequate scope to cut repo rate by at least 100 bps from the current level to limit the cost of government borrowings, while others cite falling wholesale inflation prices opening up room for further rate cuts. The government has refrained from releasing retail inflation data for the past two months and it'll be interesting to see how the MPC will base its decision given that retail inflation is among the key deciding factors.

After huge loss, AirAsia auditor flags concerns

PROSPECTS IN INDIA VERY BLEAK

India's aviation prospects, like the rest of the world, also looks bleak at the movement

Experts say that no direct relief from the government has already sent domestic airlines on survival mode and a delayed recovery can lead to the bankruptcy of two-three carriers.

Air Asia has a market share of 6-7 per cent in the domestic market.

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

AUDIT firm Ernst & Young has cast significant doubt on the ability of budget carrier Air Asia to continue as a going concern after the Malaysia-based airline posted a record loss of $188 million during the January-March quarter.

Following the observations attached along with the airline's financial results, shares of the company crashed and trading in them on the Bura Malaysia stock exchange was temporarily halted.

"Kindly be advised that trading in AIRASIA's shares has been halted with effect from 9.00 a.m (local timing) Wednesday," the airline said in a regulatory filing. Trading in shares was later resumed with effect from 2.30 p.m.

Ernst & Young, making an unqualified auditor's opinion, said that the global economy and the commercial airlines industry in particular, faces uncertainty as a result of the unprecedented pandemic.

"The travel and border restrictions implemented by countries around the world has led to a significant fall in demand for air travel which impacted the Group's financial performance and cash flows. These events or conditions, along with other matters as set forth in Note 2.1 and Note 48 to the financial statements, indicate existence of material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt on the Group's and the Company's ability to continue as a going concern," it said.

AirAsia CEO Tony Fernandes said that this is by far the biggest challenge the carrier has faced since it was founded in 2001. He indicated that AirAsia was in talks for possible joint ventures and collaborations to secure additional investment.

AirAsia, like other airlines globally, has been adversely impacted by the pandemic coronavirus. A large number of airlines, including Virgin Australia and Thailand's NokScoot have decided to close operations due to lack of demand amid restrictions. At present, it is not clear how these financial woes will impact Air Asia's future in India, where it has a JV with Tata Group. Additionally, Air Asia is facing a probe by central agency CBI for allegedly lobbying the government for overseas flight permits.

RURAL NET

Coca-Cola lists on Grameen e-store now

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

BEVERAGE maker Coca-Cola on Wednesday said it will be listing its products on the Grameen e-store platform in partnership with common service centres, operating under the aegis of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. The move is aimed at enabling availability of affordable products at the doorstep through local entrepreneurs and e-kirana stores.

In the pilot phase, Coca-Cola's portfolio of products will be listed on Grameen eStore across Andhra Pradesh & Telengana, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana.

"CSC and Coca-Cola's partnership serves the dual purpose of providing last mile connectivity of essential and affordable hydration to citizens' doorsteps, as well as promoting rural entrepreneurship and building livelihoods by mapping supply points to Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs)," the company a statement.

T. Krishnakumar, president, Coca-Cola India and Southwest Asia said: "This initiative will help us with last mile connectivity to ensure people are hydrated and have their relevant choice of beverages."

The company has been focussing on beverage localisation and developing an ethnic beverage portfolio to suit various regions and palates, he said, adding, "On the other hand, we are also adapting to the 'new normal' and using the merits of its agility, to enhance last mile delivery of relevant beverage choice for our consumers".

GREEN LIGHT

Central nod to new Agriculture Infra Fund

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE Union Cabinet on Wednesday gave its nod to a new Agriculture Infrastructure Fund focused on post-harvest management and nurturing agricultural assets. In the course of 10 years, the scheme seeks to extend a funding of ₹1 lakh crore to boost the scaling up of agricultural marketing, while strengthening the 10,000 farmers' producers organizations (FPOs), Self Help Groups (SHGs).

The banking and financial institutions under the scheme will extend the funding as loans to primary agricultural credit societies (PACS), marketing cooperative societies, FPOs, SHGs, farmers, joint liability groups (JLG), multipurpose cooperative societies, etc.

The scheme has come in the backdrop of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi launching, a few months ago, 10,000 FPOs in several states from Chitrakoot, Uttar Pradesh. The FPOs are focused on bringing onboard small and marginal farmers to pool their resources, including land, for better outcomes, while availing institutional credit, market linkages and formal scientific inputs.

While ₹10,000 crore as loans will be extended to the targeted beneficiaries in the current financial year, Rs. 30,000 crore each would be provided in the next three financial years.

Inflow into equity mutual funds drops by 95% in June as investors book profit

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

WITH stock market investors choosing to book profits as equity markets climb back, cash inflow into equity mutual funds have crashed by a whopping 95 per cent in the month of June compared to May, data from the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi) showed. This brings net inflow to just a little over ₹240 crore in June.

According to Amfi, overall, the mutual fund industry witnessed a net inflow of ₹7,265 crore across all segments last month, much lower than ₹70,813 crore registered in the month of May, primarily due to a large outflow from liquid funds.The data also shows that inflow into equity and equity-linked open ended schemes was at just ₹240.55 crore in June as against ₹5,256 crore in May. Such schemes had attracted net inflows of ₹6,213 crore in April, ₹11,723 crore in March, ₹10,796 crore in February and ₹7,877 crore in January. Multi-cap, large-cap and value funds saw outflows to the tune of ₹777 crore, ₹213 crore and ₹136 crore respectively during the month under review.

HEAVY OUTFLOW

- Liquid funds saw the withdrawal of a massive ₹44,226 crore
- Net investments through SIPs stood at just ₹7,927 crore in June 2020

Inflow through the systematic investment plan (SIP) route dropped below ₹8,000 crore for the first time since November 2018. Net investments through SIPs stood at just ₹7,927 crore in June as against ₹8,123 crore in May. However, equity linked saving schemes (ELSS) saw a better performance, attracting ₹587 crore.

"The reason for this could be two fold. With the date for making tax saving investments extended due to the pandemic and ensuing disruptions, investors got more time in hand to plan their tax saving investments and are now investing," Morningstar India Associate Director and Manager, Research Himanshu Srivastava said.

TAX COLLECTIONS FALLING

Falling tax collections have been a matter of concern for both the Centre and states. Latest data shows ₹92,077 crore has been sent to states as share of Taxes in April and May.

CENTRE RELEASES GRANTS WORTH ₹6.2K CR TO STATES

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE Centre on Wednesday released ₹6,195.08 crore to 14 states as the fourth equated monthly installment of the Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant. This is in order to help them with additional resources in fighting the Covid-19 pandemic.

According to the finance ministry, the Centre has released the highest advance payments of over ₹1,276 crore to Kerala, followed by over ₹952 crore to Himachal Pradesh and over ₹638 crore to Punjab. Assam received ₹631 crore, Andhra Pradesh ₹491 crore, Uttarakhand ₹423 crore, and West Bengal ₹417 crore.

"This would provide them additional resources during the Corona crisis," the finance ministry said. Earlier on June 10, May 11 and April 3, the government had released similar amounts to the states as per the recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission. With revenues falling, states have become more dependent on Central grants.

PANDEMIC PANDEMONIUM

First quarter of FY21 to see FMCG firms record historic fall in sales

SESA SEN @ New Delhi

IF the quarter-ended March has seen consumer staples' volume growth fall steadily, the April-June quarter is set to be worse. Analysts estimate the sector's average volumes to hit historical lows: down 24.4 per cent year-on-year in Q1 FY21, compared to a fall of 7.7 per cent year-on-year in Q4 FY20.

To be sure, categories like liquor, cigarettes, skin care, hair care and ice creams have been the most impacted due to the Covid-led disruptions and weak macro recovery, while biscuits, noodles, branded essentials in food, health & nutrition, household insecticides and hygiene remain have benefitted.

"A shift from street food / canteens / restaurants accelerated the demand for packaged foods such as noodles and branded food essentials like atta and pulses. Personal care, however, remains under pressure because of its discretionary nature," said Abneesh Roy, EVP (institutional equities) at Edelweiss Securities.

Company-wise, the likes of Marico, Bajaj Consumer Care are set to see a further decline in volumes, while there is likely to be a moderate impact for companies in the packaged food and hygiene sector such as HUL, Nestle, Britannia and Dabur. Marico's first quarter update only underlined this trend. The maker of Parachute hair oil expects Q1 domestic volumes to decline by low double-digits (11-14 per cent), against a three per cent fall in Q4FY20. Marico's Saffola edible oil, which had seen 25 per cent volume growth in Q4, is expected to see strong traction in Q1.

Similarly, Nestle, Britannia and ITC's FMCG segment, too, have been outliers, with over 20 per cent growth in April and May, said HDFC Securities. June saw better performance than April and May as things began to normalise. Consumption growth in rural India has outpaced urban growth. But, an extended closure in metros, a rise in unemployment and wage reduction across the country has weakened consumer sentiments, said Shirish Pardeshi, analyst, Centrum.

In a recent analysts call, HUL also said that discretionary out-of-home categories would remain affected in the near-term, while Godrej Consumer Products expects mid-single digit sales growth led by hygiene segment and household insecticides while categories like hair colour and air freshener remain under pressure.

> **A shift from (outside food) accelerated demand for packaged foods such as noodles and branded food essentials. Personal care, however, remains under pressure because of its discretionary nature.**
>
> Abneesh Roy, EVP (institutional equities) at Edelweiss Securities

Alonso to return to F1 with Renault

Two-time world champion Fernando Alonso will return to Formula One with Renault for the 2021 season, the team announced on Wednesday. "Renault DP World F1 Team is pleased to confirm Fernando Alonso alongside Esteban Ocon in its driver line-up for the 2021 season," Renault said in a statement.

HOLDING HIS OWN

Legend addresses racism issue amid Black Lives Matter movement

West Indies players take the knee in support of 'Black Lives Matter' movement ahead of first Test against England | AP

PTI @ Southampton

AN emotional Michael Holding didn't hold back as he delivered a powerful message against racism on Wednesday, asserting that the black race has been dehumanised and its accomplishments wiped off from a history "written by people who do the harm."

Holding talked about the issue before toss on the first day of the first Test between England and West Indies.

"... when I say education, I mean going back in history. What people need to understand, these things stem from hundred years ago," the former pace great said on *'Sky Sports'*. "The dehumanisation of black race is where it started and people will tell you that's a long time ago, get over it. No, you don't get over things like that and the society has not gotten over something like that," he said.

The 66-year-old said over the years, people have been brainwashed by an education system that portrayed black race negatively. "History is written by the conqueror not by those who are conquered, history is written by people who do the harm not by those who get harmed... we are being brainwashed, not just black people, white people are being brainwashed in different ways," he said.

Former England skipper Nasser Hussain said it's been too long that people have been looking away. "I sat there six weeks ago and I watched a black man being killed in front of my eyes. My natural reaction was to look away... the next time, it came on, because of the protest, I forced myself to watch, because I felt something inside me tell that Nasser you have been looking away for too long," he said.

Brief scores: England 35/1 in 17.4 ovs (Burns 20 no, Denly 14 no; Gabriel 1/19) vs WI. **Morning session was washed out.*

EXPRESS READ

Ministry asks HI prez to step down

NEW DELHI: The sports ministry has asked Hockey India president Mushtaque Ahmad to step down, declaring that his 2018 election was violative of the national sports code's tenure guidelines. In a letter addressed to HI secretary general, the ministry asked HI "to conduct fresh election for the post of president" by September 30.

Serie A player banned for biting

MILAN: Lazio defender Patric was banned for four games and fined 10,000 euros ($11,300) for biting an opponent during a Serie A tie. The incident happened in stoppage time of Lazio's 2-1 loss at Lecce on Tuesday. The 27-year-old Patric suddenly dipped his head and bit Lecce defender Giulio Donati on the left arm.

STICKY WICKET

CAG appeals for role revision in BCCI AC

ATREYO MUKHOPADHYAY @ Chennai

NEW constitution of the BCCI has been a topic of discussion of late. The board's application seeking certain reviews is pending in Supreme Court. Now, the Comptroller of Auditor General (CAG) has also sought a revision, of the role of its representative in the Apex Council of BCCI and its equivalent councils in the state associations. The Supreme Court in its reform order had made the presence of a CAG representative in these councils mandatory.

In an appeal to the court filed on July 3, CAG's Deputy Director (Legal) A Fani Rao submitted that the CAG's area of expertise is auditing and "therefore the CAG may be considered for intervention in the affairs of BCCI/state associations only for the purpose of audit". It adds that the CAG representative in the BCCI/state Apex Councils and IPL Governing Council need not be part of managerial or policy decisions. "It is thus being submitted that at present the inclusion of a member of CAG in the Apex Council or IPL Governing Council is not serving the objective of the Justice Lodha Committee as well as this Hon'ble Court," the application states. "The nomination of CAG's representative on BCCI's Apex Council, IPL Governing Council and Apex Councils/Management Committees of the State Cricket Associations may be reconsidered," it adds.

At present, Alka Rehani Bharadwaj is the CAG representative in BCCI Apex Council and IPL Governing Council. She has asked the Apex Council for updates of the tenure of BCCI office-bearers ahead of July 17 meeting. Not all state bodies have CAG representatives. Some state unit officials say the CAG representatives wouldn't be able to function independently if they are party to decisions taken by a council they are part of.

Archana unsure of everyday practice till situation improves

ASHIM SUNAM @ Bengaluru

ONCE the lockdown restrictions gradually eased throughout the country last month, India paddler Archana Kamath also decided to start her practice in the following weeks.

In fact, she started practicing at the Karnataka Table Tennis Association hall (in Sree Kanteerava Stadium) and Padukone-Dravid Centre of Sports Excellence in Bengaluru in the last week of June. But, the paddler has not been regular, going to practice for a maximum of only seven to eight times so far.

Archana is quite worried about the rise of Covid-19 positive cases in the city. "My training is currently on and off. There is so much uncertainty at the moment that it is very hard to have a routine right now. Besides the increase in the number of cases, there are a lot of containment zones as well," Archana told this daily.

Archana Kamath | FILEPHOTO

However, regular practice is important for the youngster, who is still in the fray for the Olympics in women's singles and mixed doubles. Archana could feature in the Asian Olympic qualifying tournament, which has been postponed to 2021 due to the pandemic.

She is of the opinion that a month and a tad more consistent training should help her get back into fitness, but hinted about the prospect of full training only after things improve. Archana, like other athletes, worked on her fitness at home during the lockdown period.

"I hope I will be able to practice everyday as soon as possible. If and when the situation improves, it makes it easier for me to go to practice. It is not that I am not practicing. But yes, being regular will help me get into the groove. I have also accepted that it will take time to get back into the system and have routine practice," said Archana, who has grown in reputation in the last few years.

Besides starring in various age group competitions in India, at 18, she became a national champion after clinching the title in early 2019. More importantly, she also defeated India's best women's player, Manika Batra en route the crown. It made heads turn. Archana also won mixed doubles gold in the Commonwealth Table Tennis Championship the same year alongside G Sathiyan. She also reached the semifinals of the 2018 Youth Olympics.

Archery body committees for efficiency

AYANTAN CHOWDHURY @ New Delhi

AFTER it was decided back in February during the Governing Council meeting, the Archery Association of India (AAI) have finally formed committees and sub committees to delegate work in a efficient manner. There are a total of 13 committees — core, advisory, finance, selection, constitution and rules, Ethics and discipline, archers', Para-archery, coaches, technical which includes events and administration, social media, ceremonial and tribal. These committees will serve for a period of four years and the president, secretary and treasurer of AAI will serve as ex-officio members of all.

On why it took so long to create these committees, secretary Pramod Chandurkar said, "We just came to power and we needed some time to figure out which roles suit our members the best. A lot has happened in the intervening months and a few delays set us back. But now that this has been done, we are hopeful of meeting our targets."

Karnataka Government (An Autonomous Institution)
KARWAR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, KARWAR
E-Tender Notification
No: KIMS/e-Tender/41/2020-21 Date: 04.07.2020
E-tender invited for **Cleaning Workers** services at Karwar Institute of Medical Sciences, Karwar. The details of e-tender can be obtained from website. http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.
1. Commencement of date for uploading of tender forms : 07.07.2020
2. Pre-bid Date : 22.07.2020
3. Last date for uploading the tender forms : 07.08.2020 Before 5:00 pm.
4. Opening of the technical bids : 10.08.2020
Sd/- Director, KIMS, Karwar

North Western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation
Dharwad Rural Division, Dharwad
No.NWKRTC/DWD/RRL/DIV/TR/COMM/330/20 Date : 07-07-2020
E-Tender Notification No. 01/2020
(Through E-Procurement)
Sole Tender Applications are invited through E-Procurement for selection of Licensees to the Canteen, Clock room and cleaning contract at Dharwad Old Bus Terminal, Dharwad that come under the jurisdiction of Dharwad Rural Division, Dharwad, the Tender Schedule details are as below.
Description : (1) Last date for submission of queries : **14.08.2020** 13:00 Hrs (2) Pre-Bid meeting date : **18.08.2020** 11:00 Hrs (3) Last date of Submission for Bids : **28.08.2020** 13:00 Hrs (4) Last date of Submission of DD's (E.M.D) : **31.08.2020** 17:00 Hrs (5) Opening of Technical Bid : **01.09.2020** 11:00 Hrs (6) Opening of Financial Bid : **04.09.2020** 11:00 Hrs
Tender Documents can be downloaded through E-procurement web site "**http/www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**" the persons who are having the DSC (Digital Signature Certificate) is eligible to participate in the Tender. For More Details Bidders may Contact the above office or Through Mobile Number 7760991652 (Divisional Traffic Officer)
Sd/- Divisional Controller
NWKRTC, Dharwad Rural
DIPR/DWD/2020-21/187/MCA **Division. Dharwad**

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE MARKET COMMITTEE HASSAN – 573 201
Email: hassanapmc@gmail.com, ph: 08172–256681, 256841,
No: DAM/APMC(Hsn)/ 321/2020-21, Date: 08.07.2020
-: Tender Notice:-
(Through E-Procurement System Only)
As per the provisions of the KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 and Orders, Circulars Issued regarding this, APMC Hassan invites Item wise tenders for following development works, in **two cover** system from class-1 contractors civil registered in KPWD and E-procurement portal and qualified under standard tender documents KW-4,Clause-3 (With latest amendments). **Sl.No: 1)Name of the work:** Providing Deck Slabs to Drain after Improvements, Construction of Concrete Road and Drain in Goruru Road Side Entrance and around Coconut Auction Platform, Construction of 02 No CheckPost and Bank Building above Canteen Building at Main Market Yard of A.P.M.C. Approved under 2020-21 Annual Action Plan.**Tender Amount Rs.** 246,29,986=34 **EMD In Rs.**3,69,500=00 **Period for completion of works(Excluding Raining Season):** 5.5 Months **Contractor's eligibility:**Qualified under KW4 & Civil Contractor Registered in KPWD. **E processing fee (e-payment):** As perE-procurement **Time Table of Tender Process** 1.Pre bid meeting Date: 30.07.2020, 12.00 AM. 2.Last date and Time for submission of technical and financial tender documents Date: 10.08.2020, 15.00 PM. 3.Opening of technical bid Date and Time 12.08.2020, 15.30 PM. 4.Opening of Financial bid Date and Time 20.08.2020, 12.00 AM. For More information visit **website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in/eportal/index.seam** or contact Secretary APMC, Hassan during office hours. Tender Opening Place: Office of the Secretary, Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Hassan. Address for correspondence: Secretary, Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Hassan.
Sd/- Secretary, APMC, Hassan **Sd/-Chairman, APMC, Hassan**

QuoteExpress IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING › WINSTON CHURCHILL

भारतीय कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड
CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD.
(भारत सरकार का नवरत्न उपक्रम - A Navratna Govt. of India Undertaking)
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER (NIT)
E-Tender No. CON/SR/TECH/RST/O&M/TNPM&HOM/0720/04
E-tenders in two e-bids system are invited from the interested parties for Providing Professional Services for Operation and Maintenance of Loaded Reach stackers (45Tx5High) of TIL make i.e., 03 nos. at ICD/TNPM and 02 nos. at PSCT/HOM, Chennai. Last date of submission of bid online is on **31-07-2020 upto 15.00 hrs** and opening of the e-bids online on **03-08-2020 at 11.30 hrs.** For brief NIT, please log on **concorindia.com/eprocure.gov.in.** For detailed e-tender document and for online submission log on **tenderwizard.com/CCIL**. Corrigendum/addendum, if any, will be hosted on websites only, before the last date of submission. For any clarification, please **contact no. 044-26482192** or email **sr.ro@concorindia.com** and for online submission **M/s ITI Ltd-011-49424365.**
Sd/- ED/SR

Abdul Nazir Sab State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj
Lalitha Mahal Road, Mysuru- 570 011
Tel: 0821-2522905/06/07
No: SIRD/COMP-04/2018—19 Date: 06.07.2020
e-Procurement Tender Notification
The Corrigendum has been issued on the e-Tender invited by this institute baring no **ANSSIRDPR GOODS 01/2020-21.** Please visit e-procurement portal (https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in) for further details.
e-Tender Schedule is extended as follows
1) Last date for submission of Tender: 20.07.2020 04.30 PM
2) Technical Bid Opening Date: 22.07.2020 05.30 AM
3) Financial Bid Opening Date: 27.07.2020 05.00 PM
Sd/- Director, ANSSIRD&PR, MYSURU
DIPR/DD/MYS/MCA/162A

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(KALINADI HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT)
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919
No.:KPCL/2020-21/OW/WORK_INDENT10174 Date: 03.07.2020
ABSTRACT BID NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement portal only) (Two Cover System)
Sealed bids are invited in English in duplicate for the work of **"Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of Server, Computers, Scanners, printers, and LAN at Kadra Offices, Kadra Power House, and Kodasalli Power House & work sites"** covering all associated works from reputed bidders with proven track record of successful completion of power supply maintenance works. Amount put to the Tender: **Rs. 3,47,100/-** EMD : **Rs. 8,678/- Period of Completion: One year from the date of Work order.** Tender Processing Fee : **As per e-procurement norms.** Last date & time for Tender Queries & Clarifications: **25.07.2020, 12.30 Hrs.,** Last date & time for Online submission of tenders: **29.07.2020, 16.00 Hrs.,** Date & time of opening of Technical Bid (Cover-I) : **31.07.2020, 10.00 Hrs.** Date & time of opening of Financial Bid (Cover-II) : will be intimated later. The details of NIT, brief bid Notification as well as tender documents can also be viewed on website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** The details of NIT & Tender documents may be downloaded from the GoK e-procurement website. Further details can be had from the **Office of the superintending Engineer (Electrical-2), Kadra, KPCL,** Kadra-581 396, North Kanara Dist. Ph.: 08382-256344, Fax: 08382-256381 Mob. No.: 9449599133, e-mail : seekadra@karnatakapower.com / seekadrakpcl@yahoo.in

Government of Karnataka
Karnataka Public Works, Port & Inland Water Transport Department
Executive Engineer, PW, P & IWTD Division, Tumkur Division, Tumkur.
Short Term Tender No. EE/KPWD/TMK/JE.2/T.No.8/2020-21 Dt. 06.07.2020
Invitation For Tenders (IFT) KW-3
e-Tender Postponment Notification
Tenders invited vide this office Notification No.08/2020-21, Dated: **17.06.2020** is postponed due to technical reason revised dates are as below: **(1)** Last date for tender information queries: **08.07.2020 at 16.00 Hrs (2)** Last date for submission of tender: **22.07.2020 at 16.00 Hrs, (3)** Date of opening the Technical bid: **23.07.2020 at 16.30 Hrs, (4)** Date of opening the Financial bid : **27.07.2020 at 11.00 Hrs.**
Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
DIPR/TUMKUR/SHIRDI SA// 07/2020-21 **PW, P & IWTD Division, Tumkur**

BRIDGE & ROOF CO. (INDIA) LTD.
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)
CIN No.U27310WB1920GOI003601
"KANKARIA CENTRE", (4TH & 5TH FLOOR), 2/1, RUSSEL STREET, KOL-71
e-NIT NO : B&R / HO / NEW JOB / TD / S.E.R – EARTHWORK / 01
Online "Single Percentage rate" Bid(s) / offer(s) are invited in two part system for "Earthwork in cutting and filling in embankment, Providing & Laying Blanketing materials, Construction of Minor Bridges etc. between Narayangarh (In) (Km 138.261) to Belda (In) (Km150.68) upto Bhadrak end (Km 151.9) in connection with the Construction of 3rd Line between Narayangarh - Bhadrak for S.E. Railway, Odisha."
Date of hosting in CPP Portal:- 09.07.2020.
Last date of submission of offer: - 23.07.2020.within 4.00 P.M.
Interested Bidder(s) have to enroll & register with the Government e-Procurement System and download the Tender document through logging on to https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app
Corrigendum / Addendum, if any shall be hosted in CPP Portal: https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app and in Company's Website http: www.bridgeroof.co.in.

All the news. In just a click.
Log to
www.newindianexpress.com

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@newindianxpress
+The New Indian Express
GET IT ON Google Play Download on the App Store

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
DEPARTMENT OF HANDLOOMS AND TEXTILES
TENDER NOTICE FOR SIZING OF YARN
Sealed tenders with two cover system in the prescribed format are invited only from the interested eligible parties for the Sizing of following varieties of Yarn for Cost Free Distribution of Sarees and Dhoties Pongal 2021.
COTTON YARN

Sl. No.	Variety of Yarn	Required Quantity in MT	Required Earnest Money Deposit in (Rs.)	Sale period	Last date and time for receipt of tender	Date and time of opening of Tender	Supply Period
1.	40sK Grey Cotton (warp quality) Yarn	3012.00	3,00,000/-	09.07.2020 to 10.08.2020 upto 10.30 am.	10.08.2020 upto 11.00 am.	10.08.2020 12.00 Noon	180 days
2.	60sC Dyed Cotton (warp quality) Yarn	2097.00					

Eligibility of the Tenderer and Other conditions are stipulated in the Tender documents.
1.The tender document can be downloaded at **free of cost** from Government tender website **www.tenders.tn.gov.in** and used for bidding.
2. **If requested to send through Post:** By Demand Draft – Rs.2900/- in favour of "Yarn Committee for FDS 2014" payable at Chennai City (inclusive of 12% GST).
Interested tenderers are requested to submit the tender schedule duly filled, **in separate covers and it should be sent in a sealed envelope super scribing "Tender for Sizing of Warp Yarn"** addressed to "The Joint Director(Uniforms) Tender Inviting Authority, O/o Director of Handlooms and Textiles, Kuralagam, II Floor, Chennai - 600 108".
(Probable Tenderers may also participate in tender meetings via video conference. The Meeting link can be had from the e-mail ID given below on request).
Contact : Joint Director (Uniforms)
Telephone : 044-25341539 Fax : 044-25342015 Mobile : 9443742935
email ID : **tenderwing2015@gmail.com**
DIPR/2536/Tender/2020 **Joint Director (Uniforms)/Tender Inviting Authority.**

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(VARAHI HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT)
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919
No: LV2W12T2/1848/call-3 Dated: 06.07.2020
ABSTRACT BID NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement platform)
Bids in two parts are invited through e-Procurement portal for **"Inspection, Testing, Certification of lifting tools, tackles and pressure vessels as per Factory Act at Varahi Hydro Electric Project, Hosangadi"** from the bidders who have carried out similar works in any Power Station/industry/utility in India. The details of NIT & tender documents can also be seen on website: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** The bids will be received through e-Procurement portal mode only. Last date for online submission of completed bids is **20.07.2020 up to 16.00 Hrs** with an EMD **of Rs. 3,160/-** & Tender processing fee as per e-procurement Portal. Date of opening of Part-I (Pre-qualification & Technical Bid) is **21.07.2020 at 16.15 Hrs** and date of opening of Part-II (Price Bid) of the successful qualified bidders is **23.07.2020 at 11.30 Hrs.** Further details can be had from the **Superintending Engineer (Elec) Varahi, KPCL, Hosangadi-576282, Kundapur (T), Udupi(D), Phone: 08259-288232, Cell: 9449598835, 9449598904 or contact Help Desk Nos. 080-25501216/25501227.**

QuoteExpress THE ONLY CONSTANT IN THE TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY IS CHANGE › MARC BENIOFF

Toddlers who were obese or overweight show concerning signs of cardiovascular disease at 11-12 years of age, said researchers in a study published in the journal *Pediatrics*.

Instagram has rolled out the pinned comment feature to help users maximise their engagement with their friends and family members. The new feature will help users to pin up important or favourite comments on their posts, the company said.

UK's NHS patients at risk from unsafe treatments

Inquiry finds pregnant women that took sodium valproate for epilepsy had children who were severely deformed or disabled

NOT WOMEN'S PROBLEM

LONDON: The UK's state-funded National Health Service (NHS) ignored serious concerns raised about the side effects of some treatments, causing many women and their babies 'avoidable suffering', an independent review concluded on Wednesday.

The Independent Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Review, Chaired by Baroness Julia Cumberlege, looked into how the NHS responds to reports from patients about harmful side effects from medicines and medical devices.

More than 700 women and their families shared "harrowing" details of three particular treatments 'vaginal mesh, pregnancy test Primodos and epilepsy drug sodium valproate' but the review found that too often worries and complaints were dismissed as "women's problems".

"I have conducted many reviews and inquiries over the years, but I have never encountered anything like this,' said Cumberlege.

"Much of this suffering was entirely avoidable, caused and compounded by failings in the health system itself," she said in her scathing findings.

She said even now the exact numbers of women affected by the three issues was still not known and praised campaigners for fighting to raise the problems.

The cases span decades and are thought to affect hundreds of thousands of women and babies. The review, launched in 2018, set out the missed opportunities when something could or should have been done to prevent harm.

> I have conducted many reviews and inquiries over the years, but I have never encountered anything like this. Much of this suffering was entirely avoidable, caused and compounded by failings in the health system itself
>
> Baroness Julia Cumberlege

Cumberlege found that sodium valproate, considered an effective medication for epilepsy, still today causes harm to unborn children when their mother, unaware of the risks, takes it when she is pregnant. The pelvic mesh, used to treat pelvic organ prolapse and urinary incontinence, could lead to terrible complications in some cases. Primodos, a hormone pregnancy test taken by women between the 1950s and the late 1970s, was associated with damage to children.

Her review found that there was a culture of denial by a disjointed and defensive healthcare system that failed to listen to patients' concerns. Hundreds of babies are being born each year to mothers "unaware" of the risks that sodium valproate can pose in pregnancy, it said.

"We are therefore recommending that separate schemes should be set up for Hormone Pregnancy Tests, valproate and pelvic mesh to meet the cost of providing additional care and support to those who have experienced avoidable harm and are eligible to claim," said Cumberlege as part of the recommendations.

In response, NHS England has issued a new poster detailing the impact of the three treatments.

"NHS England supports the Independent Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Review and encourages General Practitioners and community pharmacies to display the poster to encourage those people affected to have their say," NHS England said in a statement.

UK Health Minister Nadine Dorries said she was determined to make the changes needed to protect women in the future. "Our health system must learn from those it has failed. We will now give this independent review the full and careful consideration it deserves before setting out our full response," she said.

EXFILE

Massacre of endangered dorcas gazelles

Around 40 dorcas gazelles, an endangered species, have been slaughtered by poachers in one of Africa's largest nature reserves, Niger's environmental authorities said on Tuesday. Four suspected Nigerian nationals who live within the Termit and Tin-Toumma National Nature Reserve have been arrested. We take a look

TERMIT AND TIN-TOUMMA NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE

AREA

1,00,000 sq kms

2012

Year Termit and Tin Toumma was created. The reserve is spread over Niger's Agadez, Zinder and Diffa regions

130

species of birds as well as critically endangered Saharan cheetahs and Saharan Addax antelopes, and vulnerable Barbary sheep are found

STRICT LAWS

Poaching carries a prison term of between two months and two years in Niger

$1,700

Poaching may carry a fine of up to a $1,700

40,000

Estimated population of the species. They are found in Algeria, Chad, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Israel, Jordan, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia and Western Sahara

> *It is the worst massacre committed in the reserve. Before, it was on a small scale, a gazelle here, a gazelle there*
>
> Mamane Hamidou, environmental director in the Zinder region

MEANT FOR EXPORT

The poachers "smoked the meat of the gazelles and the way they prepared it, it was surely intended for export", said officials

Niger's public television broadcast images on Monday of the animal carcasses, meat and animal hides along with four motorcycles

EVIL PRACTICES

Dorcas gazelles are hunted for their meat, though captured alive

Their pale coats and white bellies make them ideal pets for villa gardens

$1,000

The price of a dorcas gazelle in Niamey, Niger's capital city

SCIENTIFIC NAME
Gazella dorcas

ALTERNATIVE NAME
Ariel gazelle

HEIGHT
55–65 cm

LENGTH
90–110 cm

WEIGHT
15–20 kg

SUB SPECIES
6

IUCN STATUS
Vulnerable

NASA lists 80 issues for Boeing to fix

STARLINER CAPSULE

WASHINGTON: NASA has drawn up a list of 80 recommendations that US aerospace giant Boeing will have to address before attempting to refly its Starliner space capsule, following the failure of an uncrewed test last year.

The recommendations primarily concern the on-board software, which was the main problem with the flight test last December. The capsule could not be placed in the correct orbit, due to a clock error, and a had to return to Earth after two days instead of docking with the ISS as planned.

Boeing subsequently learned that other software problems could have caused the capsule and the rocket to collide at the time of separation, a potentially very dangerous event if the flight had been crewed.

Most of the problems identified run deep and are organisational, for example NASA's verification procedures. The space agency has been a client of Boeing's for decades, but seems to have placed too much faith in its historic partner.

"Perhaps we were a little more focused on SpaceX," said Steve Stich, manager of NASA's Commercial Crew Program, in a call with reporters.

SpaceX, a relative newcomer to the space industry, is the other company chosen by NASA to develop a crewed vessel — but unlike Boeing, its Crew Dragon successfully completed its uncrewed test flight in 2019, then its first crewed flight in May, with two astronauts on board.

Starliner's next attempt could take place in "the latter part of this year," added Stich, without making a guarantee.

CAMBODIA'S TOURISTY SIEM REAP PROVINCE BANS DOG MEAT TRADE

END TO CRUELTY

PHNOM PENH: The Cambodian province that is home to the famous Angkor Wat temple complex, a major destination for foreign tourists, has outlawed the trade in dog meat, which animal rights activists have said is rife in the area.

The authorities in Siem Reap province issued an order on Monday banning the buying, selling and butchering of dogs for food. The trade remains legal in other parts of the country.

A recent report by two animal welfare groups estimated that 2 to 3 million dogs are killed annually in Cambodia for their meat, and that the Siem Reap region is a major source of supply of the animals, which are sometimes stolen pets.

The groups — Four Paws, based in Austria, and Animal Rescue Cambodia — said they identified 21 restaurants in Siem Reap specialising in dog meat and 110 in Cambodia's capital, Phnom Penh.

The order banning the trade, which was circulated online on Wednesday by several officials, declares that trading in dog meat is punishable according to the law on animal health and production, with violators facing up to five years in prison and fines of $1,750 to $12,500.

It linked the ban to Siem Reap's popularity as a tourist destination and a sacred site. The Angkor Wat temples draw more than 2 million visitors a year, though tourism has dried up this year because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The order also pays tribute to dogs for being loyal pets and protectors of homes, farms and field animals, and decries the dog trade as inhumane as well as dangerous because it can spread diseases.

Older Cambodians generally shun eating dog meat because they believe it can bring bad luck, but it has become a minor fashion among younger people. Neighbouring Vietnam is better known for the practice.

TRAP MACHINE

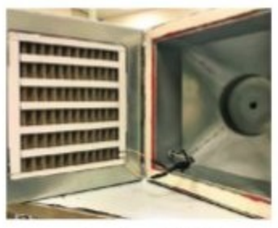
Researchers claim their air filter 'catches and kills' Covid-19 instantly

ANTHRAX EXTINGUISHER

HOUSTON: Scientists have designed a "catch and kill" air filter which they say can trap the novel coronavirus and neutralise it instantly, an invention that may reduce the spread of Covid-19 in closed spaces such as schools and hospitals,as well as public transit environments like airplanes.

According to the study, published in the journal *Materials Today Physics*, the device killed 99.8 per cent of the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, in a single pass through its filter.

It said the device, made from commercially available nickel foam heated to 200 degrees Celsius, also killed 99.9 per cent of the spores of the deadly bacterium Bacillus anthracis which causes the anthrax disease.



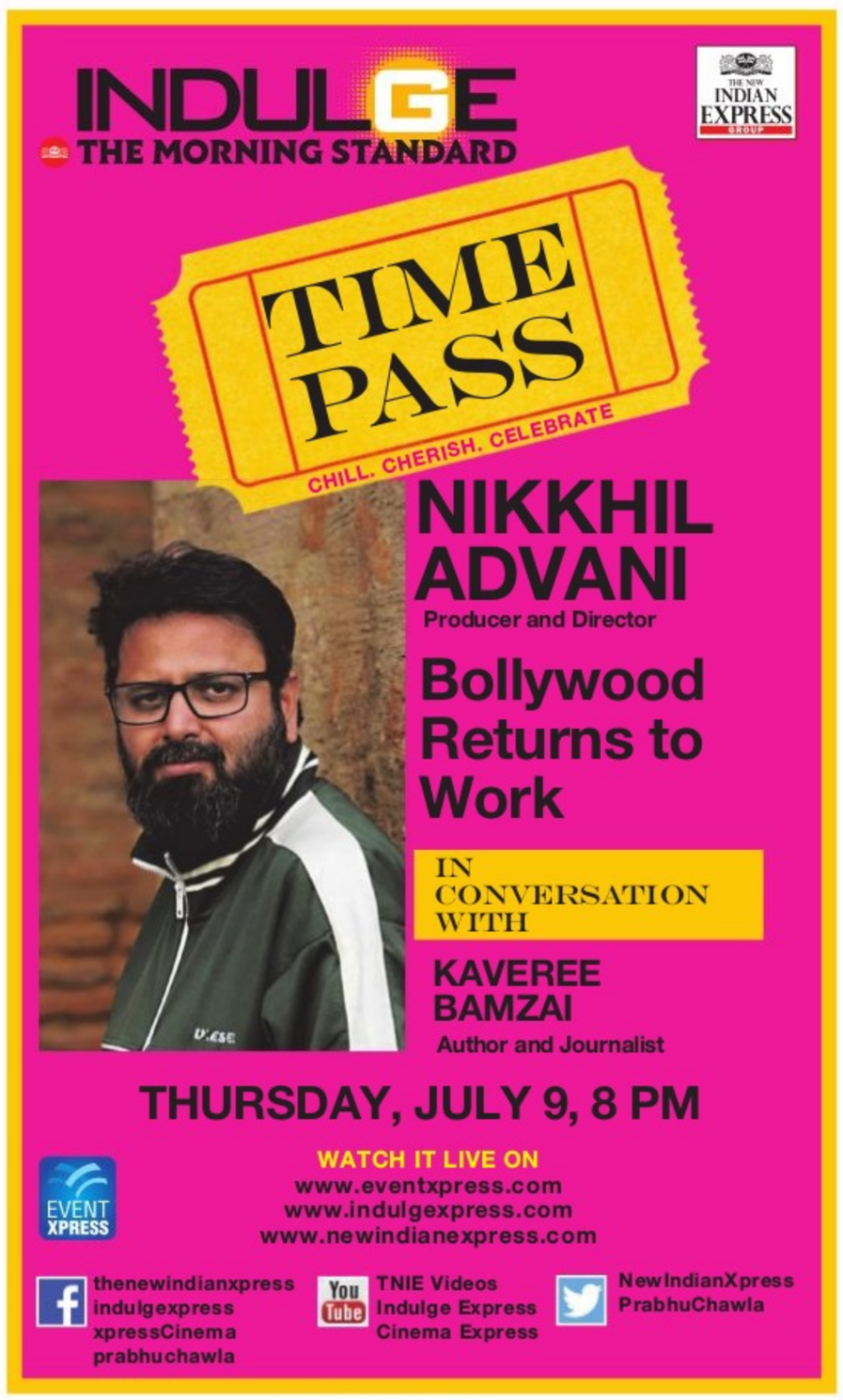
Researchers from the University of Houston, in collaboration with Medistar, designed a 'catch and kill' air filter that claims the ability to trap the novel coronavirus, killing it instantly | UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

"This filter could be useful in airports and in airplanes, in office buildings, schools, and cruise ships to stop the spread of Covid-19," said Zhifeng Ren, a co-author of the study from the University of Houston (UH) in the US.

The researchers said they are also developing a desk-top model for the device which is capable of purifying the air in an office worker's immediate surroundings.

"Schools, transit systems, hospitals, airplanes, office buildings, other health care facilities and public settings would be first in line to receive the devices," said Garrett K Peel of Medistar, a Houston-based medical real estate development firm which partnered with UH for developing the device.

According to the scientists, since the virus can remain in the air for about three hours, a filter that could remove it quickly was a viable plan, they believe controlling the spread in air conditioned spaces was urgent. The study noted that the novel coronavirus cannot survive temperatures above 70°C, so by making the filter temperature far hotter — about 200°C, the researchers said they were able to kill the virus almost instantly. Ren said the nickel foam met several key requirements.



THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS City

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09.07.2020
THURSDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Birth anniversary

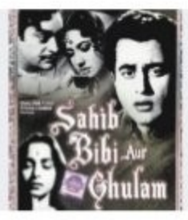
Hindi film producer, director, writer and actor, Guru Dutt was born on this day in 1925 in Bangalore. He is best known for using mood lighting in his movies

BENGALI INFLUENCE

His original name was Vasanth Kumar Shivsankar Padukone. His early years were spent in Calcutta, where he adopted the name Guru Dutt. The Bengali culture was a significant influence in his formative years

CINEMATIC STYLE

His sensibilities were rich, modern and subtle. His cinema is full of pathos and pain. One of his most memorable films, *Pyaasa*, figures in *Time* magazine's All-Time 100 best movies list



RENOWNED FILMS

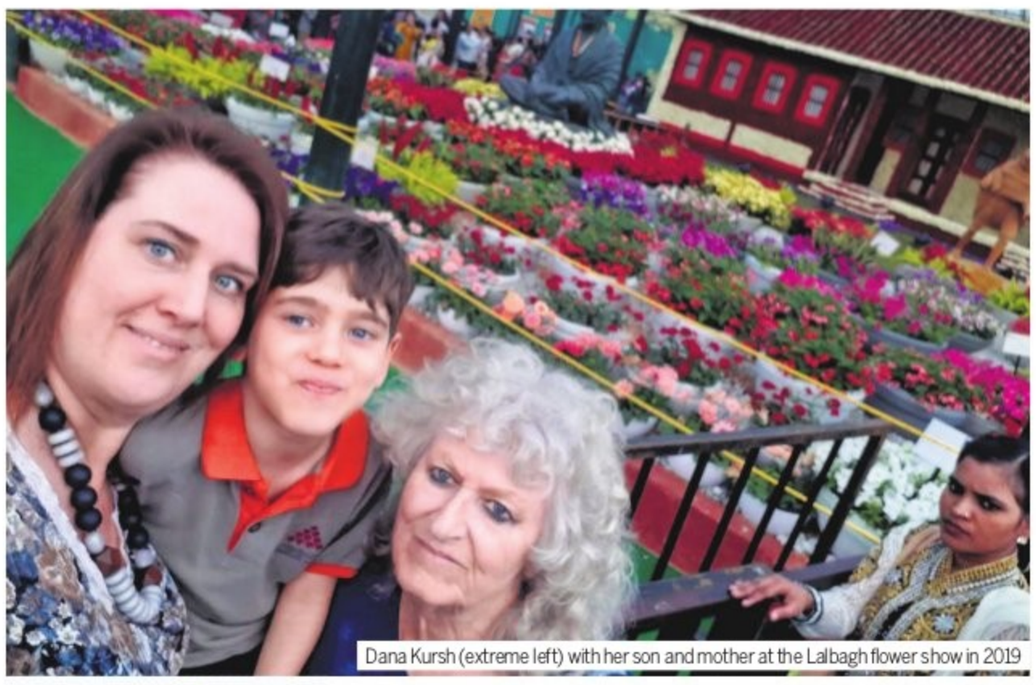
Some of his famous films include *Kagaz Ke Phool*, *Sahib, Bibi Aur Ghulam*, and *Chaudhvin Ka Chaand*, *Baazi*, *CID*, and *Sailaab*

Ravi Verma turns baddie for Rowdy Fellow

PG 4

'I ALWAYS FELT AT HOME IN NAMMA B'LURU'

From the sights and sounds of KR Market to the flower show at Lalbagh, Dana Kursh, Consul General of Israel in Bengaluru, shares the memories she is taking back with her as she gets ready to bid adieu to India



Dana Kursh (extreme left) with her son and mother at the Lalbagh flower show in 2019

• **Vidya Iyengar**

If all had gone well, Dana Kursh, the outgoing Consul General of Israel in Bengaluru to South India, would have celebrated her farewell with friends she made here over the last three years. But now, with uncertainty looming over her departure date and well as her successor, Kursh is hosting small gatherings – with social distancing norms – as she gets ready to bid goodbye. "I would have liked to have done it in a more personal manner, hugging them before I leave. But they're in my heart," says Kursh, who is returning to Jerusalem where she has spent a large part of her life, including college.

Five years ago, when she accepted a posting in India – two years in New Delhi as Deputy Ambassador of Israel to India and three in Bengaluru as CG of Israel – Kursh says she knew this would be the "job of my life." "Born into a family of farmers, I haven't felt prouder about my roots than when I came here," she says.

Looking back now, the apprehensions – especially regarding the schooling of her then three-year-old son, Ofek – have far outweighed the opportunities, including being part of the team when Pranab Mukherjee became the first Indian president to visit the Jewish country in 2015, followed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit in 2017.

When Kursh announced to her loved ones in Israel that she would be coming to India, many enquired if they could hop on, even in the container. Coming to India is a practice for young Israelis soon after completing their term in the Army. "I spent five years and I took that route in my 40s instead of my 20s," says Kursh with a laugh. Even so, it did take some getting used to experiences of requests for photographs and cows wandering on the road. "I was raised in a village but even then I wasn't used to this sight. So I sent a photographs to friends back home showing what my backyard view was like," she says about her first weekend in India.

> **Born into a family of farmers, I haven't felt prouder about my roots than when I came here**
> —**Dana Kursh,** Consul General of Israel in Bengaluru to South India

Talking about cultural differences like the 'Indian Standard Time' that most expats struggle with, Kursh admits that she "tends to be late" so that didn't bother her much. "But I'm particular about deadlines. We either say 'yes, it can be done' or 'no, it can't be'. We use the term chutzpah in Hebrew to describe that," she says, adding that gradually her team adapted to the Israeli style of being direct.

One of the first memories she holds of the city includes blue skies and greenery. "People here are less formal and I've always felt at home in namma Bengaluru," she says. Visiting the flower show at Lalbagh, looking at piles of flowers at KR Market, and recently even witnessing the floral tribute to COVID-19 warriors, Kursh has spent her after hours taking in what the city has to offer. "I spent my 2019 birthday in Puducherry and this year's in Varanasi, soaking in the tradition of these places," she says.

With both India and Israel being startup nations, Kursh has worked in driving innovation and hopes to continue doing so. "An Israeli team is coming here to partner with Indian experts to develop rapid testing kits for Covid-19," she says.

KNOW YOUR CITY

Answers

The correct answers for part 1 of the quiz are

1. Immadi Kempe Gowda (Kempe Gowda II), son of Kempe Gowda I who founded the city by erecting the fort.
2. Doddapete
3. KR Market, August 5, 1905

Here are the first three respondents
1) V V Venkatachalam
2) Suman Jain
3) Radha Jayakumar

Mention Bengaluru, and the first images that come to mind are its heritage buildings, IT parks and weather, not to mention the pub culture. But how familiar are you with the city's history? Take part in our weekly quiz series, curated by city-based history researcher Arun Prasad, to learn more about namma Ooru. It will be published every Wednesday. Send answers to bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com with the subject line 'Know Your City Quiz'. Correct answers and names of the first three respondents will be featured in CE on Thursday.

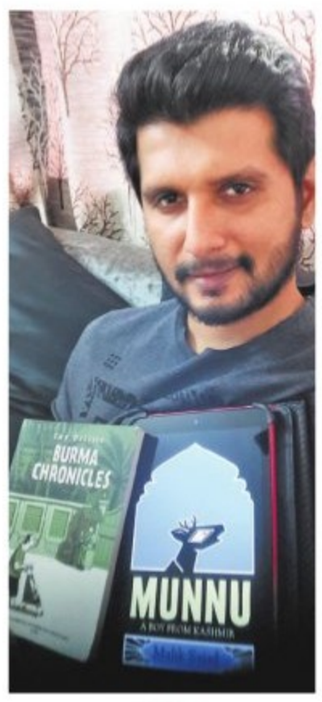
Strokes and stories

• **Express Features**

Think about graphic novels and what comes to mind is speech bubbles, crisp one-liners and, of course, vivid images. Bringing this world of alternative literature online is an interactive session being organised by Dialogues Cafe this Sunday. The virtual meet-up, titled Dialogues with Books: Graphic Novels, will be hosted by **Ananth Harihar**, a city-based IT professional and graphic novel enthusiast who will discuss the genre with participants.

Since the scope of graphic novels is massive, Harihar says he decided to exclude works that are considered comics, such as *Calvin and Hobbes, Tintin, Asterix, Chacha Chaudhary, Mandrake, Phantom* and *Manga*. "By definition, graphic novels revolve around serious content. It appeals to adults and is written for them," Harihar says, adding that some of his picks for the session are Berlin and A Fun Home. "Berlin is a three-part graphic novel that talks about Germany between WW-I and WW-II. The reason I chose this is because it's quite descriptive and focuses on the lives of common people in the region during that period. On the other hand, Fun Home is a LGBTQ graphic novel which talks about an American girl who comes out as lesbian and the struggles that follow."

The participants, including one from Canada, will also talk about their picks. Graphic novels are relevant in the current times, says Harihar. "The genre is post-modern and is less than 50 years old. Even in the case of Berlin, where the subject is close to 100 years old, it was written only in the late 1990s. Because of that, the gaze that we have is quite contemporary, wherein current realities are represented in the works of the artist. It's something one cannot escape from," he explains.



> **Graphic novels revolve around serious content. It appeals to adults and is written for them. The genre is less than 50 years old**
> —**Ananth Harihar,** techie

(The online event will be held on July 12, 4 pm; registration fee is ₹100)

Keeping a 'tab'

• **Express Features**

These days, 12-year-old Zoya Khanum finds it difficult to wipe the smile off her face when she begins her online classes. The daughter of a scrap dealer, who used to find it hard to study using her father's old phone, now has a new tablet while logging in. "Studies have now become more fun," says Zoya, a resident of Bismillah Nagar near BTM. Zoya's excitement is a result of an initiative launched by three city-based entrepreneurs, who recognised that at a time when online education is at its peak, there are many students who are facing difficulties in attending classes because of lack of proper equipment.

Jayant Gauri, Prasanth Nori and Neeraj Doddamane have come up with a crowdfunding campaign called The Learn from Home Project, and are making efforts to provide tablets to underprivileged students so that they are able to attend online classes. The campaign is supported by Sandalwood actors like Diganth, Kiran Srinivas and Hitha Chandrashekar.

Started last month, the initiative had an initial target of collecting ₹3 lakh for 34 students, but they have now pushed it to ₹4 lakh to help 11 more children. "We are starting by giving the tablets to students of Class 7 and 10 of Raintree School," says Gauri, who is also the founder of the school.

Actor Kiran Srinivas says the learning process has to continue, especially for students preparing for Boards. "The initiative aimed to reduce the burden on children to learn from home and that resonated with people. Perhaps it will inspire others to contribute in some capacity and make people's life, especially children's, better one day at a time," he adds.

For the love of science

• **Monika Monalisa**

Making a test tube appear from a bowl of oil, blowing a balloon with just yeast... Some might call it magic but Mark Thompson calls it science. But don't just take our word for it. The UK-based astronomer will showcase similar such fun experiments during his virtual live performance on July 10.

"I love to perform big experiments that are dangerous but impressive, like the exploding hydrogen balloon and the liquid nitrogen cloud," says Thompson, who is also a writer and has nine books to his credit, the latest being *101 Facts You Didn't Know About Space*. Interestingly, it was the planet Saturn that inspired this Earthling's fascination with science. Having witnessed the planet through a telescope at the age of 10, the incident was enough to spark a love of astronomy and scientific experiments. Thompson started his first experiments when he was at secondary school but soon started to perform experiments at home, which only got bigger and bolder with time and experience. The amateur astronomer is also a council member of the Royal Astronomical Society, which was founded in 1820.

ON THE SHOW

- Vortex-generating dustbins
- Dancing paste
- Vanishing beakers
- Exploding Pringle tubes

Recalling one of his craziest experiments, he says, "If you mix cornflour with water you get a weird liquid, which is called a non-newtonian fluid. This means it behaves like a liquid if you are gentle with it but a solid if you apply pressure. I once filled a small pool with the stuff and got people to run across the top of it but if they stood still, they would sink!" One can't help but wonder how safe these experiments are but Thompson assures that his experiments are well controlled and he takes all precautions for himself and his audience, which includes his children Phoebe (11) and Riley (9) as first viewers.

An avid science lover, Thompson, who is also an ambassador for Barnardo's (a children's charity in the UK), hopes that his shows have made children fall in love with science too. "I have been performing the show for four years now," says Thompson, who debuted the show at the Edinburgh Fringe. He adds, "I hope some of the children that have seen the show will one day work in science," says Thompson, adding that he gets many pictures of kids performing experiments after his show. Apart from preparing for his shows or writing books, Thompson, until a few years ago, also used to regularly fly an aeroplane as a hobby.

The show will be streamed on insider.in, July 10, 6:30 pm

GOOD SAMARITANS

Building a safe haven

• **Express Features**

When their property in Banaswadi turned vacant after their tenant left, brothers Sandeep, Sachin and Ashish Jain tried to turn adversity into opportunity. They decided to help those struggling to find places to quarantine themselves. "Initially, there was a lot of confusion. People who couldn't quarantine at home were having trouble finding a place. And we found that we had vacant rooms. We gave it out to those in need," says Sandeep. The brothers run Global Wings Group, a multi-diversified business.

Now hosting doctors, nurses, and paramedics from government hospitals, the brothers have been working to help people with quarantining. "During the lockdown phase, most of the hotels were shut and there was no staff. We had to activate the properties in short notice. We used to get calls at odd hours and we had to take care of safety, security and hygienic food. Our team was placed at the airport too to coordinate with officials for quarantining," says Sandeep.

(From left) Ashish Jain, Sachin Jain and Sandeep Jain

Amid the crisis were also challenges, in terms of keeping the rooms clean or serving food. Sandeep, whose team was also serving meals to the needy at their restaurant Desi Masala, says, "Several of our workforce returned to their hometowns, so we had to manage with the staff we had."

A stable back end machinery was put in place in association with BBMP. "We are working to help healthcare workers, police personnel, primary and secondary contacts and migrants from other cities. This also entailed ensuring timely meals. Whatever the challenge we faced, our goal was to pull this off," says Sandeep, who is now partnering with over 20 local hotels to help people find places to quarantine.

FRIED CHILLI PAROTTA

INGREDIENTS

- **Parotta:** 3
- **Onion:** 2
- **Tomato:** 2
- **Oil:** ½ cup
- **Fennel seeds:** ½ tsp
- **Curry leaves:** 3 sprigs
- **Green chilli:** 3
- **Ginger-garlic paste:** ½ tsp
- **Chilli powder:** ¼ tsp
- **Garam masala powder:** ½ tsp
- **Coriander powder:** ½ tsp
- **Salt to taste**
- **Coriander leaves:** 2 sprigs

METHOD

- Cut the parotta into small pieces. You can use fresh or leftover parotta.
- In a pan, add oil, fennel seeds and a few curry leaves. Let them splutter.
- Add sliced onion, chilli and ginger-garlic paste. Sauté well until onion shrinks slightly. Then, add sliced tomato and stir fry.
- Add chilli powder, garam masala, turmeric powder, coriander powder, salt and sauté well on low flame until the spices are well combined. Add little water and mix until the masala is well combined.
- Add chopped parotta and mix well. Toss and stir fry until the masala is coated well. Garnish with chopped coriander.

– by Sashi Prabu, Chennai

QUICK FIX

What's cooking IN YOUR KITCHEN DURING THIS LOCKDOWN?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschn@gmail.com.

TWEET OF THE DAY

RED WATTLED LAPWING (VANELLUS INDICUS)

FOUND ACROSS ASIA

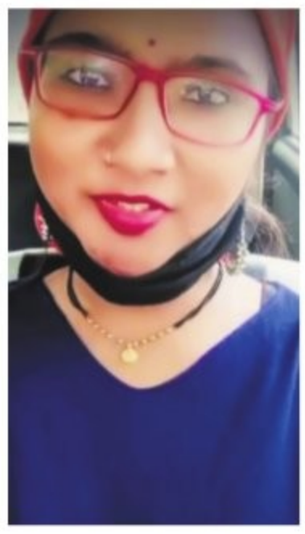
Just like others in the lapwing family, this bird too cannot perch. Its loud alarm call that usually indicates presence of humans or predators is often compared to the words "did he do it?". The Hindi metaphor 'tithiri se asman thama jayega' (can the lapwing support the heaven?) is used in reference to people taking up tasks beyond their ability; this stems from the belief that the bird sleeps on its back with its legs up. In Rajasthan, the lapwing laying its eggs on high ground is believed to be an indication of good rains. People of the Bhil tribe look at eggs laid in dry beds of streams as a forewarning for delayed rain or drought; eggs laid on the bank means normal rain.

Photo: Elangovan Viswanathan

BRIGHT SPOT

DRIVER ON A MISSION

Vidya Shelke worked as a driver for a popular cab aggregator. This was a job she loved doing. But things went south when the COVID-19 lockdown was announced. Like many others in the country, Vidya too lost her job. She decided to turn this adversity into an opportunity by helping people, who were stranded due to the lockdown, reach their homes safely. Since March 28 she has helped almost 200 people. From senior citizens, pregnant women to families of migrant labourers, the cab driver helped them all, and drove to the farthest corners of Maharashtra, to get them home. Adhering to the safety guidelines, Vidya has made it mandatory to wear masks inside the cab and carries a bottle of sanitiser and extra masks for those who do not have them. Also, she only takes two passengers, except children, in the backseat of her car. No one is allowed to sit in the front seat, owing to the norms of social distancing.



Source: The Better India

APPSMART

Resso

Resso is a music streaming app that lets you express yourself and connect with others through tracks you love.

- **Available on:** Android & iOS

Discord

Discord is your place to talk. Create a home for your communities and friends, where you can stay close and have fun over text, voice, and video.

- **Available on:** Android & iOS

StreamKar

StreamKar is a live streaming app for video-calls with strangers and friends. It allows you to live-stream your special moments.

- **Available on:** Android & iOS

SOUND BOARD

THE FRIEND ZONE

Friends Dustin Ross, HeyFranHey and Assante explore mental health, mental wealth and mental hygiene. They discuss topics such as dating during quarantine, racism and more.

- On Google Podcast

GASTROPOD

Cynthia Graber and Nicola Twilley talk about food by delving into the science and history behind it. They also have an interesting line-up of interviews with chefs, scientists and experts from the globe.

- On Apple Podcasts

EAT SLEEP WORK REPEAT

Bruce Daisley, Twitter's European vice president, tells how individuals and businesses can improve. In each episode, he interviews different guests to get their insight on various aspects of life at work such as gender inequality and more.

- On Apple Podcast

THE TIP OFF

The weekly podcast gives us a dramatic outlook at the detective work behind journalism. It explains how journalists get the leads for their biggest stories. It is hosted by investigative journalist Maeve McClenaghan.

- On SoundCloud

CTRL ALT DELETE BY VEMMA GANNON

Emma Gannon, a former social media editor of British Glamour, talks about problems that women encounter in their workplace.

- On Apple Podcast

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

MANDYA

Ganesh, also known as Eshwar, is compelled to move to the city after the bloodshed in his native town, Mandya, devastates him. When he returns years later, he adopts the task of educating people.

- Cast: Rakshita, Darshan

PUDHIYA PATHAI

A gangster rapes a young woman and forcefully marries her. While she is heartbroken, she decides to reform him by making him realise the repercussions of his actions.

- Cast: R Parthiepan, Seetha, Manorama

MYTHRI

Siddarama is one step away from winning a sum of ₹1 crore in a game show hosted by his favourite actor Puneeth Rajkumar. However, scientist Mahadev Godke attempts to ruin his plans.

- Cast: Mohanlal, Puneeth Rajkumar, Adithya Bharadwaj

APPAJI

Sakthi kills DSP Rekha, who witnesses her father's death and lies to the police about Sakthi to save him from getting arrested.

- Cast: Vishnuvardhan, Aamani, Pankaj Dheer

Scan this QR code to find out how your favourite celebs are coping with the lockdown.

WHAT'S ON TED TALKS

1 HISTORY VS SIGMUND FREUD BY TODD DUFRESNE

Working in Vienna at the turn of the 20th century, he began his career as a neurologist before pioneering the discipline of psychoanalysis, and his influence towers above that of all other psychologists in the public eye. But was Sigmund Freud right about human nature? Todd Dufresne puts this controversial figure on trial.

2 HOW DO PREGNANCY TESTS WORK? BY TIEN NGUYEN

Over-the-counter pregnancy tests give life-changing results with a high accuracy rate. But how do they work? Tien Nguyen explains how each test performs a scientifically rigorous, multi-stage experiment in the time that it'll take you to watch this video.

3 THE MOST HUMAN ACTIVITY BY NEIL DEGRASSE TYSON

How different is life now that you are all grown up? Have you maintained your curiosity? Watch this lesson and find out why you can continue to learn, create, and "carve your niche in the world".

4 WHY SHOULD YOU READ "THE HANDMAID'S TALE"? BY NAOMI R. MERCER

Margaret Atwood's masterpiece 'The Handmaid's Tale' explores the consequences of complacency and how power can be wielded unfairly. Atwood's chilling vision of a dystopian regime has captured readers' imaginations since 1985. How does this book maintain such staying power? Naomi R. Mercer investigates.

5 HOW WOMEN WILL LEAD US TO FREEDOM, JUSTICE AND PEACE BY ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF

Telling the story of how Liberian women helped rebuild their country after the civil war, H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, former president of Liberia, discusses why gender equality is essential to peace.

FIT BIT

AKARNA DHANURASANA

(ARCHER OR SHOOTING BOW POSE)

In Sanskrit, prefix 'a' means 'toward', 'karna' means 'ear', 'dhanu' means 'bow' and 'asana' means 'pose.' It is an intermediate seated posture which requires flexibility in the legs and hips. It opens up the Svadisthana (spleen or sacral) chakra, the centre of creative and sexual energy. It stimulates feelings of pleasure, abundance, wellness and emotional stability. It dispels fears of change and helps those suffering from addiction and depression.

STEPS

- Sit relaxed on a plain surface. Keep head, shoulders and back in one line.
- Keep your palms on your thighs and inhale deeply.
- Now, slide down the right hand towards the big toe of your right foot. Keep your right leg straight.
- Hold the toe and pull the right foot towards your face and slide down with your left hand to reach the big toe of your left foot.
- Left foot should remain on the ground.
- Move your right foot with your hand in front of your face towards right ear.
- Exhale and inhale when lifting the left foot with your right hand.
- Keep your trunk and neck erect while doing this asana.
- Stay in the bow position for about 20 seconds.
- Now, exhale and return to your original position.
- Repeat this asana with your left leg and right leg alternatively.
- This posture can be repeated at least twice with each leg.
- Continue to breathe normally.

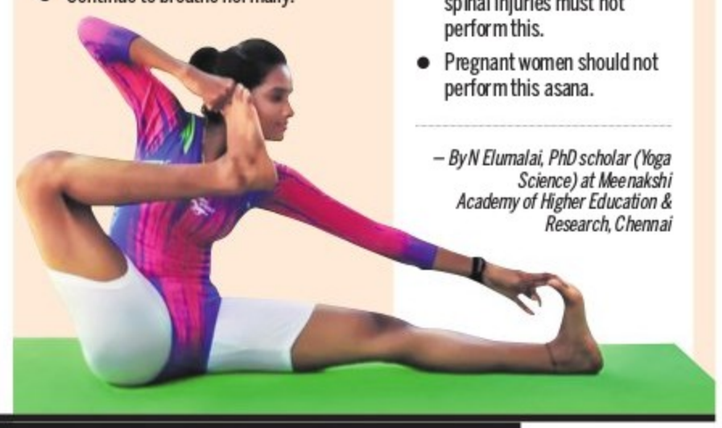
BENEFITS

- Strengthens your legs and builds up the core muscles in an excellent manner.
- Improves blood circulation in the body.
- Focuses on flexibility of thighs, groin, chest, shoulders, spine, abdominal muscles and neck.
- Treats indigestion and clears constipation.
- Heals pain in the large intestine and lower abdomen.
- Regularises menstrual cycle.
- Breathing capacity is enhanced greatly as it expands your lungs with increasing the oxygen-holding capacity.
- Improves concentration and focus.

LIMITATIONS

- Those suffering from any spinal injuries must not perform this.
- Pregnant women should not perform this asana.

– By N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai



NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

PAILWAAN (Kannada)

An emotional roller coaster of a desi grown wrestler who realises the purpose of his life and goes about fulfilling it. A gripping narrative of a sports genre story with action & drama forms the crux of the movie Pailwaan.

- Cast: Kichcha Sudeep, Suniel Shetty, Aakanksha Singh
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹ 129 per month

AGENT SAI SRINIVASA ATHREYA (Telugu)

Sai Srinivas Athreya, a Nellore-based detective, faces trouble when he investigates the case of an unidentified body found near a railway track.

- Cast: Naveen Polishetty, Shruti Sharma
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹129 per month

99 (Kannada)

An emotional story of a two old school sweethearts, ram and janu meets after 20 years sharing their heartwarming unconditional hidden love.

- Cast: Ganesh, Bhavana, Samkisha
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹ 129 per month

NAAN LOCAL (Tamil)

Babu, an easy-going young man, falls in love with a woman. However, he learns that he has a competitor in winning the woman's father's approval and takes up a challenge to impress him.

- Cast: Nani, Keerthy Suresh
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar
- Registration: ₹399 per year

KURANGU BOMMAI (Tamil)

The lives of a local gangster, a desperate father, a cunning cab driver and an insomniac pickpocket intersect as they try to find an abandoned bag full of money.

- Cast: Delna Davis, Vidharth, Bharathiraja
- Watch on: Zee5
- Registration: ₹ 99 per month

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

PENALTY (Hindi)

At a Lucknow college, an aspiring football player's dream of playing nationally is threatened when he faces discrimination for being Manipuri.

- Cast: Lukram Smil, Manjot Singh, Shashank Arora
- Watch on: Netflix
- Registration: ₹199 per month

ASUR (Bengali)

Kigan, an artist, decides to create the world's largest Durga idol at Deshbandhu Park. However, the enmity between friends and bruised egos threaten to destroy his mammoth endeavour.

- Cast: Jeet, Nusrat Jahan, Rajnandini Paul,
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹129 per month

ENGLISH/FOREIGN

SCHINDLER'S LIST (English)

Oskar Schindler, a German industrialist and member of the Nazi party, tries to save his Jewish employees after witnessing the persecution of Jews in Poland.

- Cast: Liam Neeson, Ben Kingsley, Ralph Fiennes
- Watch on: Netflix • Registration: ₹199 per month

ORDINARY PEOPLE (Filipino)

Sixteen-year-old Jane and her boyfriend, Aries, live on the streets of Manila. Making their livelihood primarily from pickpocketing, their lives are completely changed when Jane becomes pregnant.

- Cast: Hasmine Killip, Ronwaldo Martin, Sue Prado
- Watch on: Netflix • Registration: ₹199 per month

THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (English)

As a child, Daisy meets Benjamin Button who suffers from a rare ageing ailment wherein he ages backwards. They keep in touch as she gets older and he turns younger.

- Cast: Brad Pitt, Cate Blanchett, David Fincher, Taraji P Henson
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹129 per month

ADU (SPANISH)

The film's plot is divided into three parallel narratives. One revolves around the life of a young boy and his sister, who attempt to fit themselves in the hold of a plane just to escape their continent and reach Europe. The second narrative highlights the struggles of an environmental activist who has to deal with ongoing poaching activities in Africa. And the third and final narrative is about a group of guards who helm the responsibility of stopping people from trying to jump the fence in Melilla. In the end, all of these stories come together and show how many people in the African continent are still trying to find ways to escape so that they can seek better lives in the world outside.

- Cast: Anna Castillo, Moustapha Oumarou, Luis Tosar
- Watch on: Netflix
- Registration: ₹199 per month

GOURMET MADE EASY

A new book by Natasha Celmi shows how you can make cooking less of a mundane task, and helps you dish out global cuisine using local ingredients

People can find recipes at the click of a button. This book is a guide to the concept behind the recipe so that people can make it their own

—Natasha Celmi, food blogger

• Monika Monalisa

'What do I cook today?' is a question that haunts many. And now, **Natasha Celmi**'s new book *Fast, Fresh and Flavourful* aims to help people find the answer to this in an artistic manner. Though the book has recipes inspired from various parts of the world like Italy and Singapore that she lived in, the ex-restaurateur and food blogger says it is not a regular cookbook. "People can find recipes at the click of a button. This book is a guide to the concept behind the recipe so that people can make it their own. It's like a hand book for any kind of modern family that is always on the go and can help you make any kind of international food using local ingredients," says Celmi, adding that the book is about simplifying cooking and having any kind of gourmet food without any complicated or expensive ingredient.

Married to an Italian, Celmi has spent a lot of time in the European country and so, it comes as no surprise that the book has recipes for many tomato or pesto sauces. Besides Italian, it also has Asian and Mediterranean recipes, with categories for Buddha bowls and soups as well. And since not knowing what to do with leftovers is a common issue, the 37-year-old writer included a portion that will help people deal with this problem. "For example, if you have extra falafel then you can have it with pita bread or rice, or can come up with a nice wrap or sandwich," Celmi adds. The book mainly has vegetarian recipes, but also has a guide to adding meat to the dish. "Food gets most of its flavours from the vegetarian ingredients in it. If someone wants to add meat there is always a way to do it," she explains about the book that is currently available online.

While Celmi, who used to run the restaurant Mamma Mia, may have many tips and tricks up her sleeve now, it wasn't until 2005 that she learned how to cook. "I had never entered the kitchen till then. There was this sudden boom of international cookery shows by Nigella Lawson and *MasterChef Australia* that made me fall in love with cooking. It was like an art to create something new and I tried to explore beyond Indian cuisine," says Celmi, who returned from Singapore to Bengaluru four years ago. Celmi hopes her book will inspire others of different genders and age groups to also try their hand with the task. "I might even do online classes on the recipes I featured," she adds.

(From Left) Another Kind of Green members Sanket Chakraborty, Ibin Rigia, Chethan Kadoor, Shikha Chandrashekhar, Anand Murali and Vishal Varier • Armaan Mishra

Beating the funk with 'funrock'

• Muneef Khan

Slightly over a year since their inception, city-based rock outfit Another Kind Of Green (AKOG) is inching closer to the release of their debut album – *Plain Good Feeling*. The current six-piece lineup features Sanket Chakraborty (drums), Shikha Chandrashekhar (vocals), Vishal Varier (bass), Chethan Kadoor (guitar), Ibin Rigia (guitar) and Anand Murali (keyboard). Portraying an infectious and energetic blend of rock, punk and blues, the band is set to release *Moonlight Swing*, a song from the eight-track album, in August. The song revolves around the idea of a modern-day traveller finding expression by riding off into the night. "*Moonlight Swing* is the phrase we used to personify the euphoria that a person experiences while doing so. The song is a fun ride in itself with frequent changes in keys and time-feels, but it eventually revolves around the main riff of the song, which is catchy, simple and fun to sing along to," says Varier.

Plain Good Feeling is a representation of the outfit's journey of finding their sound and creating a niche with a blend of blues, rock and punk, or as they call it, 'FunRock'. "The name sums up what our music is at the end of day, and the album explores the various influences that each member brings to the fore. While each song has its own space and its own story to tell, the album at large is simply about making our listener have a good time, giving them a song for every mood. We want it to be a fulfilling emotional journey at the end of it," adds Varier.

While each song has its own space and its own story to tell, the album at large is simply about making our listener have a good time, giving them a song for every mood

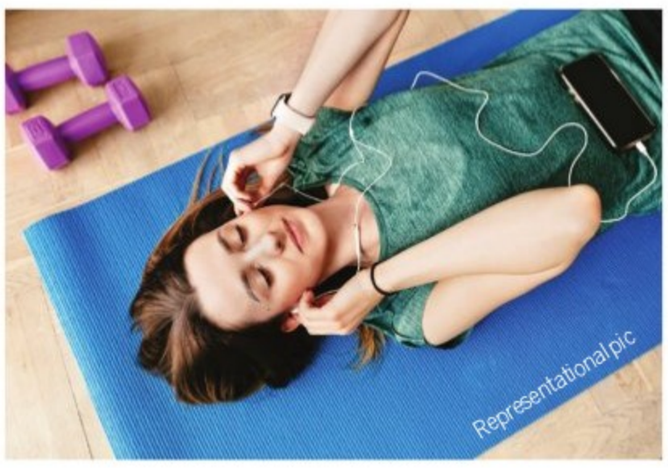
—Vishal Varier, musician

Since December last year, the band has released three singles from the album – *Plain Good Feeling*, *Captain Couch Potato* and *Hey Polly*! While *Hey Polly*! is the tale of a classic love triangle based on a true incident in Kadoor's life, *Captain Couch Potato* is a loud, punchy punk-rock song about how one doesn't need flowy golden hair or bulging biceps to be a superhero. "Quite topical during the current times, CCP (as we like to call the character) is probably the best superhero out there, staying at home and watching TV on his couch. That being said, the song came from a place of appreciating oneself and enjoying what you're all about," says Varier adding that their latest single *Plain Good Feeling*, is a rousing reminder of taking pride in being who you are and an ode to the ups and downs in life.

The songwriting process has been a collaborative effort as opposed to a particular member being the principal songwriter. While the band planned to release the album by the end of 2020, the pandemic resulted in them being scattered all over the country. "But we've been making new music consistently over video calls, thanks to the privileges technology affords us, and this definitely means that the release of more singles is on the agenda," says Varier.

TUNING IN
Bindu Subramaniam

At home with music trends



Let's face it. We thought 2020 would be the year we redefined what it means to be cool. Instead, we redefined commuting, going to school, and catching up with friends.

Unsurprisingly, music was our top source of comfort. Spotify is now one of the 100 top-growing companies in the United States. Music is now our all-day companion – while we work, do laundry, cook, try to get kids through online schooling, and moderate yet another fight between the cats (just me?).

Stanford University professor Baba Shiv recently said we haven't necessarily created any new trends; we have just accelerated existing ones. Collaborating remotely was already a reality, but in 2020, we were all forced to jump on board overnight.

Things are no different in the world of music, where we have all been creating and experimenting with a newfound medium for months now. Here are some interesting 'trends' to keep an ear out for:

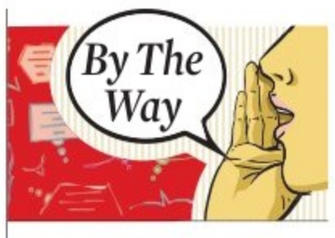
1. At the beginning of the lockdown, musicians were releasing new songs to spread messages of hope and solidarity. Cross-cultural collaborations and live videos were an integral part of the quarantunes trend. Now, however, musicians are looking for ways to monetise their art online and learn a sustainable living from it. And it's a lot easier to get started on this path when the online medium is seen as something new to adapt to, and not as a replacement to physical concerts altogether.

2. Music videos have taken on a new look -- from being shot in exotic locations to being intentionally raw. Earlier, musicians would do everything to hide the fact that they were shooting a music video at home. Today, it's the standard aesthetic. (FYI: if you're looking for great backgrounds, you cannot go wrong with a stack of books or magnet walls.)

3. Musicians are learning new skills. We are building parallel skills like video editing, camerawork, and more. Software like OBS is used for better production of live concerts, and artistes are also conducting workshops and teaching everywhere.

With no end in sight and no real understanding of what's going on, it's important that we do what we can to survive in the moment. And say what you want about the present, but it has the best technology we could have ever had.

(The author is a singer, songwriter, educator and social entrepreneur)



Good vibes only

Actor Samyukta Hornard posted a video of her singing a Kannada song with her mom Sudha Belawadi. She said on Insta: "There's so much uncertainty in and around me... This song gave me some clarity. Patience pays. I like this song and it's meaning so I thought I'll share it with you all."

VOICE OF CONCERN

The 'nowhere' people

• Sakuntala Narasimhan

Gopal got angry as he struggled to answer my simple question. Reading about migrants walking back to their native villages, I had asked him: Does he also intend returning to Bihar? After a long silence, he said, "My native place, amma?" And there followed a long, angry monologue.

"Which is my native place, amma? I came to Bengaluru as a three-year-old child, with my parents, 22 years ago. I have lived here since then. Bengaluru is my home. I don't know any other. We were landless labourers in Bihar, but never had enough to eat. So my father moved. We have nothing in that village now, almost everyone has left or died, there is nothing, nothing. So, what 'home' do I return to? There are hundreds of others like me, with no earnings, where do we go? In school they taught us that we should feel proud to be Indians. Does being an Indian help me? I sank all my savings on building myself a one room house here. If I move to my village now, do I take my house with me?"

I had no answer. I used to feel sorry for the migrants I saw on TV, women with infants and pregnant women, but who focuses on the plight of others like Gopal who have lost their jobs and have nowhere to go? Does anyone care? Gopal used to be a lorry cleaner. There is no business for lorries since March.

Representational pic

Autorickshaw driver Arun and construction worker Joseph are likewise 'nowhere people', not migrants. There is a scheme for distributing ₹5,000 to auto drivers, but Arun got nothing, thanks to procedural hassles and corruption. There are thousands like him, left in the lurch. Although construction work has been partly resumed, Joseph has not got the relief package of ₹5,000 announced by the state government because he has to be registered, and for that he needs his contractor's signature (which the contractor refuses to give as he will have to contribute to the fund for labourers under the law; Joseph's attempts to mobilise his co-workers, only generated hostility from his employer.) This is the reality. Jaya, 54, cleans three shops. She is a Kannadiga, not a migrant. And yet, her plight is no less than that of the migrants. The shops she worked in remained closed for three months. They didn't pay her. Jaya's daughter, Manju, needs dialysis twice a week, and now she cannot even afford the auto fare to the hospital. She stopped going; no one knows how long she will live. Subsequently Jaya heard that some hospitals arrange for transport for poor patients, but being illiterate she had no idea where to enquire. A victim of the pandemic? You bet, just as much as migrant labourers. But who looks at these diverse groups of non-migrant cases? "I now wait for death, sooner the better," says Manju.

These are our 'nowhere people', Bharat vaasis just as much as any other citizen, but ignored. Because they have no clout, power, or money. Give it a thought as yet another Independence Day comes round and flags are hoisted.

(The writer is a city-based independent journalist)

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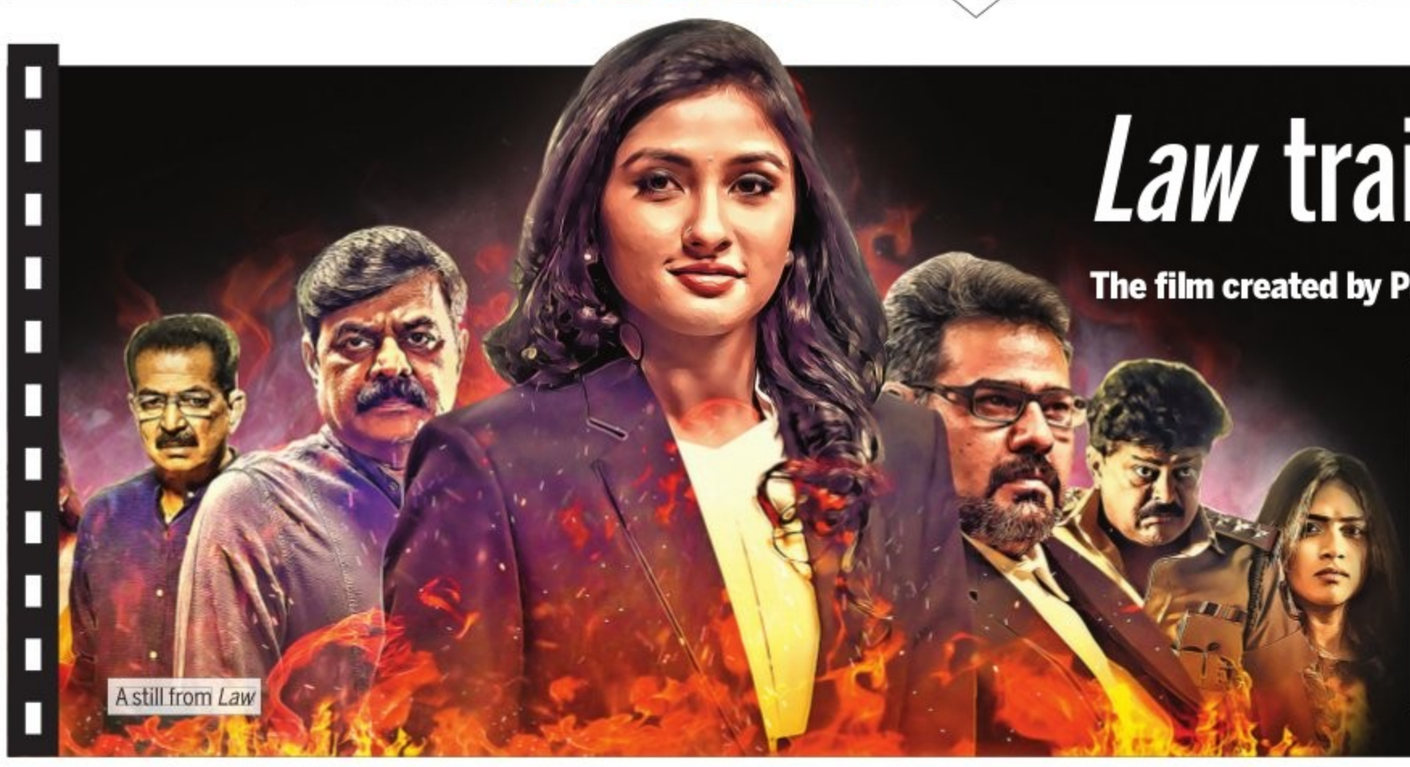

A still from *Law*

Law trailer to be released today

The film created by PRK Productions to premiere on Amazon Prime Video on July 17

CE Features

One must fight their own battles, this is the message from the makers of *Law,* who released a poster of Ragini Chandran, which was followed by an announcement on the release of the trailer and motion poster — to be out on July 9. Created by Puneeth Rajkumar's PRK Productions, the legal drama which is set to premiere on Amazon Prime Video on July 17 and has raked up a lot of expectations.

Directed by Raghu Samarath, and produced by Ashwini Puneeth Rajkumar and M Govindu, *Law* will feature Ragini Chandran in the lead role.

The film's music is composed by Vasuki Vaibhau and cameraman Sugnaan takes the responsibility of the cinematography.

The cast also comprises Mukhyamantri Chandru, Achyuth Kumar, Sriri Prahlad and Sudharani among others.

India is a work in progress, says *Tryst With Destiny* director Prashant Nair

I am deeply fascinated by the idea of our country as a work in progress. With Tryst With Destiny, I did not want to make a cynical criticism of the state of affairs. I wanted it to feel like a call to arms, the idea that we can impact the course of our evolution

— **Prashant Nair,** director

Shilajit Mitra

Prashant Nair's *Tryst With Destiny* picked up the best screenplay award at the Tribeca Film Festival earlier this year. There were no ceremonies, of course, with the Danny Boyle-Judith Godrèche-led jury announcing the winners online. "We didn't get a selfie with Robert De Niro," Prashant tells us on a call from Spain. "But given the uncertainty looming over the movies, it was a nice ray of hope."

Produced by Drishyam Films and the French banner Backup Media, *Tryst With Destiny* is a triptych exploring contemporary inequalities in India. The first story concerns a millionaire who realises not everything he dreamt of can be bought. The second follows a lower caste couple attempting to build a new life. The third is about a cop upgrading his living conditions for his mistress. The ensemble cast features Ashish Vidyarthi, Victor Banerjee, Lillete Dubey, Viineet Kumar, Palomi Ghosh, Kani Kusruti, Jaideep Ahlawat, and others.

Prashant recalls feeling unsettled by the political turmoil in India in 2018. "It looked like some of our founding notions like secularism and freedom of speech were in danger." Shaken, he started browsing the internet and landed on Jawaharlal Nehru's August 14, 1947 speech. "I was moved by the promises and ideas that were laid out in that speech. It gave me the idea of cataloguing the journey of our independence. Each character in the film is struggling to take control of their destiny," the director says, adding that he wanted to work with a broad canvas and "not point fingers or seem preachy."

Prashant has previously directed the features *A Day in Delhi* (2013) and *Umrika* (2015). Last year, he helmed two episodes of the Amazon Prime Video series *Made in Heaven*. Varied in scope, his work has commented on class, migration, and social mobility in India. "I am deeply fascinated by the idea of our country as a work in progress. With *Tryst With Destiny*, I did not want to make a cynical criticism of the state of affairs. I wanted it to feel like a call to arms, the idea that we can impact the course of our evolution."

The film was shot in Varanasi and Mumbai. Parshant worked with cinematographer Avinash Arun to create a distinct look for each segment. "Every story has an emphasis on colour — saffron, white, and green. They were also filmed quite differently. Each narrative is a little provocative and extreme, so the actors had to really push themselves."

With global distribution circuits in limbo, the film's theatrical release looks hazy. "We are yet to have a proper world premiere. So our focus right now is on that. I'm also a firm believer in the streaming experience," says Prashant, who is presently developing a web series on the 1997 Uphaar cinema tragedy in Delhi.

Ravi Verma

STUNT CHOREOGRAPHER RAVI VERMA TURNS DEAF AND MUTE BADDIE FOR *ROWDY FELLOW*

The stunt master's wish to play an antagonist has finally got fulfilled; Ravi Verma , who has worked with top film stars in south Indian movies as well as Bollywood, will be seen in a face-off with Rohit in the film, which also marks the latter's directorial debut

A Sharadhaa

Stunt choreographer Ravi Verma's long-cherished dream of playing a menacing villain has finally come true. The stunt master, who has worked in south Indian films as well as Bollywood, has appeared in cameos earlier. He has now challenged himself to essay the role of a deaf and mute antagonist in Rohit's upcoming venture, *Rowdy Fellow*. Interestingly, the film's script, which is mentored by *Ugramm* and *KGF* director Prashanth Neel, also marks the directorial debut of the actor, TV presenter and RJ. "Though my forte has been choreographing stunts, I also had his thirst for acting. I have always wanted to play a villain's role, and not a hero. I share a good rapport with Rohit, who is a good friend of mine, and he showed faith in my capabilities. The negative role sketched by them has scope for performance, and so I took it up," says Ravi Verma, who has completed the shoot. Talking about his experience, he says, "My focus was only on the action part and how I should emote since I didn't have dialogues to deliver. Even you can see the human qualities in a villain. I thought it was an interesting character to play."

Rowdy Fellow is presented by FFF and bankrolled by Swarnalatha Productions in association with Padmavathi Pictures. The film also features Tamil actor Vidya Pradeep in the female lead role, and Urvashi in a pivotal role. Nakul Abhyankar has done the song compositions, while Ravi Basrur has done the background score. Cinematography has been handled by Lavith.

A still from *Rowdy Fellow*

Though my forte has been choreographing stunts, I also had his thirst for acting. I have always wanted to play a villain's role, and not a hero. — **Ravi Verma,** stunt master and actor

Ravi Verma juggles stunt choreography, acting and direction

The stunt director reveals that he has been offered negative roles in a couple of Bollywood films too, and that he is currently in the midst of discussions with them. "Talks are on with a few filmmakers, and I will be able to finalise once the pandemic subsides," he tells *CE*. Meanwhile, Ravi Verma, apart from being involved in stunt choreography and acting, has also tried his hands at direction, with , *Rustum* starring Shivarajkumar. Taking it forward, he has used the lockdown time to get ready with a couple of scripts, and is waiting for the right time to narrate the story to the actors who he thinks will fit the bill.

A STREAM OF STORIES

Ashameera Aiyppan

They say art reflects life, but I say how art is consumed is also a reflection of our lifestyle. Amazon Prime Video has become an important player in the ever-changing universe of film exhibition—so much so that 'wait for it to come on Prime' has become a legit line to use in the context of film releases. "We aim to serve the customers across the length and breadth of this country. India is diverse, and we recognise that. The idea is to make the canvas as wide as we can," says Vijay Subramaniam, Director and Head, Content, Amazon Prime Video India. Here's Vijay discussing the nitty-gritties of the streaming universe, and the part Prime plays in it...

How does content end up on Amazon? What are your determinants to pick originals and curative content?

For us, everything begins with our customer and we work backward from there. We try to understand the customer's current tastes and preferences related to entertainment, and that forms the heart of any decision. We try our best to serve that consistently, while also tracking the evolving nature of entertainment. Of course, there is a checklist of determinants -- both creative and strategic -- but the starting point is always the customer.

Take comedy, for example. It is common knowledge that the genre is evergreen, regardless of the format that ranges from films, shows, to more recently, stand-up comedy. When we looked at the lives of younger customers and what they cared about, comedy was pertinent for them. This was the time when open-mics were beginning to happen across the country. So picking up these signals, we built a very strong comedy portfolio. I'd like to believe that Prime Video India today has the best of stand-up comedy on the service: Zakir Khan, Biswa Kalyan Rath, Kenny Sebastian, Alex, etc. We have something for everybody. And we were able to build this by trying to understand what matters to the customer.

When you talk about customer expectation, are you referring to genre choices?

I think that's narrowing it down. Customers don't think in terms of genre. They don't wake up and say, 'I wish I had more coming-of-age films in my life.' What motivation backs the customer's entertainment choices? That's the question. I take pride in saying our interaction with the customer is continuous through various mechanisms: Social listening, our customer contact programs, research... As it is continuous, we are able to take their impressions and identify what's the closest option in terms of genre, and then build that portfolio to the best possible extent.

Can you share some of the most interesting insights you have gleaned so far?

To be honest, there was no 'aha' moment, if that's what you're looking for. But there were a lot of latent customer interests that were not being met within the entertainment landscape for a variety of good reasons. We understood was there was a demand for high-quality finite fiction series with cinematic vision. Soaps and reality shows formed the rhythm of television, and then, there were feature films and the theatre-going experience. But in the middle, there was an opportunity to tell compelling stories in finite fiction. So, we committed to creating a robust original portfolio: Inside Edge, Breathe, Paatal Lok... It was met with a lot of love across customer segments.

Another insight was that people wanted to see the latest films sooner. People who couldn't go to the theatres wanted to watch the best of films, as early as they could. It was a clear signal that led us to create a movie portfolio where we could bring new films to our service, eight weeks from their theatrical release.

Vijay Subramaniam

Prime has been adding several of the older favourites, across language. Was this a choice driven by customer interests too?

The top priority is the latest. And then, there are two other things: a catalogue that they can revisit, and where they can discover new stuff. Customers like knowing that they can revisit their favourites, even if they don't necessarily do that. Also, our algorithm helps them discover more content, suitable for their tastes. It is to give them both types of experiences.

Speaking of regional content, Amazon had an original in Tamil and Telugu, but nothing much after. But now we hear of collaborations with filmmakers like Mani Ratnam

When we enter a new language, we start with a lot of films to build familiarity. Through films, we also gauge what kind of stories we can tell in the long-form. It also helps us understand the kind of stories that are being told, and the gaps we can tap into. So we tried it earlier on, and learnt from those experiences. We are now committed to doing originals in Tamil and Telugu, much like in Hindi in the last few years. There's a lot of development going and we have several talented filmmakers working on it. But we don't like to announce them until they are ready.

Oscar-winning short film *Hair Love* to become animated series

CE Features

Oscar-winning short film *Hair Love*, written and directed by Matthew A Cherry, is set to be developed into a 12-episode series for HBO Max. Hair Love is based on Cherry's best-selling book of the same name.

It follows the journey of an African American man and his daughter as they attempt to tie her hair. The upcoming 2D animated series titled *Young Love* will tell the story of Stephen and Angela, their daughter, Zuri, and their pet cat, Rocky.